

THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. X.—NEW SERIES, No. 222.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1850.

[PRICE 6d.]

OPENING OF BUNYAN MEETING-HOUSE, BEDFORD.

THE above new Place of Worship will be OPENED on WEDNESDAY, the 20th day of FEBRUARY, 1850, when the Rev. J. HARRIS, D.D., will preach in the Morning. Service to begin at ELEVEN o'clock. And the Rev. WILLIAM BROCK, of London, will preach in the Evening. Service to begin at Half-past SIX o'clock.

There will be a PUBLIC DINNER at the Assembly Room, at TWO o'clock. Tickets, 2s. each, may be had of Messrs. Burr, Aston, and John Usher, and at the Vestry on the day of opening.

N.B. No person will be admitted into the Room, either to the Dinner or afterwards without a Ticket.

On THURSDAY, the 21st of FEBRUARY, the Rev. JOHN ALDIS, of London, will preach in the Evening. Service to begin at SEVEN o'clock. On the same day there will be a PUBLIC TEA at the Assembly Room, to commence at Half-past FOUR o'clock. Tickets, 1s. each, to be had of Messrs. Burr, Aston, and Usher.

On the following SABBATH, FEBRUARY 24th, SERMONS will be preached in the Morning and the Afternoon by the Rev. HENRY ALLON, of London; that in the Afternoon expressly to the Young. And in the Evening by the Rev. W. BUNTING, A.M. A Collection after each Service. The entire proceeds of the Dinner and Tea Tickets will go to the Building Fund.

N.B. The 7. 15. a.m. Train from London and those that join it from the North at Bletchley arrive at Bedford at 5 minutes after Ten o'clock.

The Religious Society for whose accommodation Bunyan Chapel has been erected was founded in 1850. The celebrated JOHN BUNYAN was connected with it for more than thirty years, either as a member, a deacon, or a minister. The new chapel holds 1,150 persons, and will cost £3,700. Towards this sum, the people themselves, with the aid of a few generous friends, have already raised nearly £2,500. Could we now only find four or five hundred persons who would feel a pleasure in contributing to the Monument we have erected to Bunyan in the shape of a substantial and much-admired chapel, we should soon be free from debt,—for we ourselves have done, are doing, and shall do our very utmost. Any sum that may be given at the opening services or sent to me before will be thankfully received.

Bedford, Jan. 30th, 1850. JOHN JUKES.

J. ANSLOW, Grocer, Wednesbury, is in immediate want of a YOUTH about 15 years of age as an APPRENTICE.

WANTED, in a Tradesman's Family, a respectable FEMALE of good manners and decided piety, to take charge of three children and the superintendence of the Household. Apply, stating age, salary, and reference, to Mr. NUNNELEY, Market Harborough.

WANTED, a respectable young man (a Dissenter), as an Assistant in the Retail TEA and GROCERY Business. Apply to Mr. Thomas Pitt, Southampton.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY AND CHEAP BIBLES.

Shortly will appear,

A REPLY to the REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the SOUTHWARK AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY on the above subject, inserted in the Times of January 25th, and circulated among the members of the above Society, showing the incorrectness of that Report and its one-sided nature. By J. DUNNING, Secretary to the Bookbinders' Trade Society. To be had of CHARLES COX, 12, King William-street, Strand; BENJAMIN L. GREEN, 63, Paternoster-row.

This advertisement has been delayed until the result (which was again a refusal) of a fifth application for an impartial examination of the wages-book of the contractors for the binding of the above Society, which would have decided the controversy, was known. It is therefore requested that the religious public will suspend their judgment until the appearance of this Reply.

Just Published, demy 12mo, price 4d.,

A POETICAL MIRROR. A POEM, in THREE CANTOS. Containing Observations on God's Incomprehensibility; on Creation, and the Fall; and the Redemption of Mankind by Jesus Christ.

"What hath been hid, God's secret things among,
Since, by the heavenly host creation's hymn was sung,
And angels have in vain desired to know,
Shall, to the saints be known, when to those climes they go."

London: W. STRANGE, jun., Paternoster-row. Birmingham: MENON and Co. Shrewsbury: DRAYTON.

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With a view of rendering his Office most complete, he has adopted STEAM POWER, with the addition of the only Licence from the PATENT DYEING COMPANY (Davison and Symington, Patentees) in London, by which the work is thoroughly dried, and the ink firmly set, as fast as printed, and fit for Pressing or Binding.

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31, BUCKLESBURY, LONDON, Jan. 1850.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVERSTOCK-HILL, HAMPSHIRE ROAD.

Instituted 1758. Incorporated 1848.

THE ADMISSION OF TWENTY ADDITIONAL CHILDREN.

AT a GENERAL COURT of GOVERNORS, held at the LONDON TAVERN, on the 28th day of November, 1849, JOHN REMINGTON MILLS, Esq., the President, in the Chair, it was resolved unanimously:—

"That a Thanksgiving Fund be immediately opened, in order to defray the increased expenses consequent upon the admission of twenty additional children into the school, and that this fund continue open until the 1st day of March next."

The Board of the General Committee, in gratefully acknowledging the spontaneous liberality of those friends who have kindly contributed towards the additional expenses arising out of this Election, earnestly entreats the continuance of the same favour from those Governors of the Corporation and friends of the Orphan poor, who for a long period have been benefactors to this Charity, as well as from the public at large, and trusts that upon this SPECIAL OCCASION, they will feel it a duty to solicit new contributions from their friends. Thanks are especially due to those ministers who have preached sermons and made collections on behalf of the Charity; others it is hoped will follow their excellent example. The estimated additional expenses will be from £1,500 to £2,000, which is a small amount to be raised by the numerous and influential body who are the supporters of the Orphan Working School, and as a TOKEN of THANKSGIVING from the many who have in themselves and their families been the spared monuments of mercy amid so much desolation and sorrow. DURING THE LAST SEVEN YEARS THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN THE SCHOOL HAS BEEN MORE THAN DOUBLED.

"THANKSGIVING FUND."

The following contributions are thankfully acknowledged:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
A Friend, per H.	10	10	0	Laohian, Miss	5	5	0
Roberts, Esq.	10	10	0	Leete, Miss	5	5	0
A Friend, per Sec.	10	10	0	Leicester, Geo. Ostell,			
A Friend	5	5	0	Esq.	5	5	0
Alger, Alfred, Esq.	10	10	0	Locke, James, Esq.	10	10	0
Almsworth, Mr. R.	5	5	0	Maitland, John, Esq.	5	5	0
Allen, Mrs.	5	5	0	Mann, James H., Esq.	5	5	0
Arnold, R. Esq.	5	5	0	Manning, Miss	25	5	0
Avelling, Master T. G.	5	5	0	Mason, Edward, Esq.	10	10	0
A. Z., per J. Fletcher,				Masters, H. W., Esq.	5	5	0
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Chalmers, Rev. Wm.				Percival, Mrs.	5	5	0
A.M.	10	10	0	Piper, Miss	5	5	0
Chartier, E. Esq.	5	5	0	Piper, J. D. Esq., and			
Clarke, Mr. Clement	5	5	0	Friends	5	5	0
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Cobb, Miss Julia M.	10	10	0	Porter, Miss Anne	5	5	0
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Collier, John, Esq.	5	5	0	Procter, James, Esq.	10	10	0
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Duile, the Right Hon.				Stevenson, Geo., Esq.	5	5	0
the Earl of	21	0	0	Sturges, Miss R.	5	5	0
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Farmer, Thomas, Esq.	10	10	0	Taylor, Thomas, Esq.	10	10	0
Fletcher, Joseph, Esq.	17	17	0	Tilly, Captain	5	5	0
Fletcher, Mrs.	10	10	0	Tomkins, B. A., Esq.,			
Foster, Miss Lucy	5	5	0	and Friends	10	10	0
Foster, James, Esq.	10	10	0	Tucker, Joseph, Esq.	10	10	0
Foster, Miss	5	5	0	Tucker, Henry, Esq.	5	5	0
Foster, William, Esq.	5	5	0	Tucker, Mrs. Henry	5	5	0
Fowkes Brothers, Messrs	5	5	0	Viney, Mr. Ebenezer	5	5	0
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Friends, per Mr. Sim-				Whitmore, G. Esq.	5	5	0
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Friends, per J. Shoard,				Williams, Miss Jane	10	10	0
Esq.	45	3	0	Wilson, Joseph, Esq.	10	10	0
Friends of E. Wates	13	13	0	Wiltshire, G. C., Esq.	10	10	0
Friends, per Rev. J.				Winterbotham, Lindsey			
Wood	26	15	6	Wright, Miss F. C.	10	10	0
Garland, J. W., Esq.	5	5	0	Wyton, M., Esq.	10	10	0
Graham, Mrs.	10	10	0	Z., per W. O. Fairman,			
Gurney, T., Esq.	5	5	0	Esq.	10	10	0
Hamilton, W., Esq.	5	5	0	Sums under 5 Guineas	134	11	0
Hanson, John, Esq.	5	5	0	Congregational Collections,			
Harris, Miss	5	5	0	Clapton, Rev. A. Wells	59	1	7
Harris, Miss Jane	5	5	0	Daiston, Rev. Clement			
Hextell, Miss	5	5	0	Dukes, A.M.	10	10	2
Hodge, Mrs.	10	10	0	Hackney, Rev. Dr.			
Hollard, R. S., Esq.	10	10	0	Burder	15	0	0
Homes, John, Esq.	10	10	0	Kingsland, Rev. Thos.			
Hoppe, J., jun., Esq.	5	5	0	Aveling	10	10	0
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Horne	31	10	0	Aldis	15	15	0
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Jardine, David, Esq.	5	5	0	Dr. Archer	18	13	4
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Kennerley, C., Esq.	10	10	0	Surrey Chapel, Rev. J.			
Kenneth, Mr. R., and				Sherman	10	10	0
Friends	31	10	0				

Further Donations are earnestly solicited.

The Second Election will take place in April, when Twenty Children will be admitted, nominations for which must be made before the 1st of March.

Subscriptions and Donations will be thankfully received by T. M. Coombs, Esq., the Treasurer, and by the Committee; at the London Joint Stock Bank, Princess-street, Mansion-house; by Messrs. Nisbet and Co., Berners-street; by the Secretary, at

the Office of the Charity; and by Mr. Harrison, the Collector, No. 21, Doris-street, Kennington-cross. Post-office orders should be drawn upon the General Post-office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, and be made payable to Mr. Joseph Soul.

Office, 19, GRESHAM-STREET, BANK, where it is requested all Communications may be sent.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

TO SECURE THE ADVANTAGE OF THIS YEAR'S ENTRY, PROPOSALS MUST BE LODGED AT THE HEAD OFFICE, OR AT ANY OF THE SOCIETY'S AGENCIES, ON OR BEFORE 1st MARCH.

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE (MUTUAL) LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

Incorporated by Special Act of Parliament.

LONDON, 61A, Moorgate-street.

SOLICITOR. Charles Lever, Esq., 1, Fenchurch-lane, Old Jewry. PHYSICIAN. Joseph Laurie, Esq., M.D., 12, Lower Berkeley-street, Portman-square.

HEAD OFFICE, 26, ST. ANDREW-SQUARE, EDINBURGH.

The SCOTTISH EQUITABLE being a MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY, their Profits are not, as in Proprietary Companies, divided between the Partners of the Companies and the Assured. The WHOLE belong to the Policy-holders, among whom they are ALLOCATED every THREE YEARS. It is, therefore, impossible for any Assurance Office to give greater advantages to Assurers than are given by this Society.

The PROFITS or BONUSES may, in the option of the Assured, be applied thus:—

- 1st. They may be added to the sum assured, payable at death; or
- 2nd. They may be commuted into a present payment to the Policy-holder; or
- 3rd. They may be applied in reduction of the future annual premiums.

The following is a View of the progress of the Society down to 1st March, 1849.

	Amount Assured.	Annual Revenue.	Accumulated Fund.
At 1st March, 1837	£740,462	£26,993	£36,115
Do. 1841	1,569,570	55,530	153,329
Do. 1845	2,184,381	76,111	295,197
Do. 1849	2,987,376	114,106	466,553

Table of Rates and Terms of Proposal may be had on application at the Society's Office, 61A, Moorgate-street, City.

WILLIAM COOK, Agent.

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TRACTS of an ANTI-TRACTARIAN. By a BARRISTER.

"There is a movement in the religious world of our own day to which none can close their eyes—of which none can prophesy the result; it has been brooding for a long time, but the tempest has at last broken, and in the confusion there is neither light nor darkness."—Westminster and Foreign Review, (p. 380) Jan. 1850.

London: C. GILPIN, Bishopsgate-street Without.

Just published, price 2s. each,

LECTURES TO WORKING MEN BY MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

Delivered in London during the month of November.

LECTURE 1.—By the Rev. GEORGE SMITH, of Poplar, on the "Advantages now possessed by the Working Classes of this Country for Social Advancement."

LECTURE 2.—By the Rev. Dr. MARSH, on "The Importance, to the Entire Body Politic in this Country, of the Social Advancement of its Working Classes."

LECTURE 3.—By EDWARD SWAIN, Esq., on "The Political Franchise, a Public Trust, demanding an Intelligent and Virtuous Care for the Public Good."

LECTURE 4.—By the Rev. ALGERNON WELLS, on "The Favourable Influence of Religion on the Intelligence, Liberty, Virtue, and Prosperity of States."

The cordial manner in which the Lectures were received by large audiences gives evidence of their interest in the great principles advocated and explained, and they are now offered in packets of 100, at 12s., for general distribution.

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The following Ministers have expressed their high approval of the work:—Rev. Drs. J. Pye Smith, Lefebvre, Morison, Raffles, Steane, and Messrs. Craig, Carter, Gogerly, Goutly, J. A. James, J. Sherman, &c. &c.

Sunday-school Teachers, Mothers in Israel, or any who wish to elevate the intellect of those beneath them in worldly circumstances—add its circulation.

Vol. II. is now ready, price 1s. 6d. cloth.

A Specimen Number for January, 1850, will be forwarded, on application, post free.

London: B. L. GREEN, 63, Paternoster-row. Huddersfield: THOMPSON; and all Booksellers.

ALPACA UMBRELLAS.—The economy both

in the cost and wear of this Umbrella, has been fully borne out by the use and experience of the last two years, and which is testified by the very great patronage which continues to be bestowed upon it. It may be obtained of most Umbrella dealers in the United Kingdom, from 10s. 6d.

W. and J. SANGSTER, 140, Regent-street; 94, Fleet-street; 10, Royal Exchange; 75, Cheapside.

Just Published,
SPINAL CURVATURE—Its Theory; Its Cure:
 Illustrated by Cases and Coloured Plates. By GEORGE N. EPPS, Surgeon to Harrison's Spinal Institution.
 "The book is perfectly intelligible to, and is likely to interest, all who may be seeking information on its subject."—*Globe*.
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THE HYMN BOOK contains upwards of EIGHT HUNDRED Psalms and Hymns by Dr. Watts and other Authors, with some Originals, and is especially prepared to meet the growing demand for ONE BOOK, as a matter of convenience, economy, and harmony, rather than several, and embraces the large majority of Psalms and Hymns ever used in our places of worship.

18mo EDITION.—ROAN, 3s. 6d.
THE CHURCH—ITS REVIVAL.
 613 C.M. Salem. Devizes.
The church restored. Psalmic. WATTS.
LET Zion and her sons rejoice,
 Behold the promised hour;
 Her God hath heard her mourning voice,
 And comes to exalt his power.

32mo EDITION.—ROAN, 2s.
THE LORD'S SUPPER.
 643 L.M. Penitence. Doversdale.
The power and glory of God. KEBLE.
 O GOD of mercy, God of might,
 How should weak sinners bear the sight,
 If, as thy power is surely here,
 Thine open glory should appear?

48mo EDITION.—ROAN, 1s. 4d.
MAN—HIS LOVE.
 315 P. Hotham.
Brotherly Love. WESLEY.
 JESUS, Lord, we look to thee:
 Let us in thy name agree:
 Show thyself the Prince of Peace;
 Bid all strife for ever cease.
 By thy reconciling love
 Every stumbling block remove;
 Each to each unite, and dear;
 Come and spread thy banner here.

"The selection of hymns is remarkably judicious; and the indexes are more perfect than anything of the kind that has yet fallen into our hands."—*Evangelical Magazine*.

"Dr. Reed's idea is a good one. The adoption of one book for the entire community is an object much to be recommended."—*Christian Witness*.

"We know of no collection of Psalms and Hymns, which, in our judgment, is so admirably adapted for general use among Christian churches."—*Christian Examiner*.

"One peculiar excellency of this work is the remarkable simplicity of its arrangement, combining with the novel and superior character of its indexes, to make it the most accessible book of reference we have seen. We know of no Hymn Book in which we could so readily find a hymn to suit any particular state of mind or train of thought as in this."—*Independent Magazine*.

"With this book we are in perfect delight."—*Sunday School Magazine*.

"Allowing a new Hymn Book to have been required, Dr. Reed has done well. He has met the need with great propriety, skill, and taste. He has secured great variety, and his system of indexes is admirable."—*Nonconformist*.

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 Congregations desiring it, may have a Special Title-page, with the name of their own Chapel inserted.

DO YOU SUFFER WITH COUGH,
 Bronchitis, Influenza, or Asthma? If so, send for a Packet of **BRANDE'S BRONCHIAL SEDATIVE**. Sold by Chemists everywhere at 1s. 1d. per packet, post free 1s. 3d., and 2s. 9d. per box, post free 3s.

Since the introduction of this medicine, it has been rapidly supplanting all other preparations administered for pulmonary disorders.

Exercising Cough, Shortness of Breath, and Hoarseness, cured by Brande's Sedative, after all the medical men in the neighbourhood had failed:—

"Portfield, near Haverfordwest, Feb. 12th, 1849.
 "GENTLEMEN,—Having been a great sufferer for upwards of three years, with an oppression of the chest, and an exercising cough and pain in my stomach, which at times nearly deprived me of my breath, I was induced (after having tried all the doctors in this neighbourhood) to send to your agent at Haverfordwest for a packet of Brande's Bronchial Sedative, and, to my great astonishment, I found relief in less than two days; I was enabled to breathe with perfect ease, and my voice, which was before hoarse and husky, became quite clear. I then sent for another packet, and I have now, thank God, got rid of my cough, and am perfectly restored to my former health. You are at perfect liberty to make use of this information in any way you may think proper.
 "I remain, gentlemen, yours respectfully,
 "DAVID GOODRIDGE."

London: Manufactured only by JOHN WILLIS, 24, East Temple Chambers, Whitefriars, Fleet-street, removed from 4, Bell's-buildings, Salisbury-square. Wholesale by all the large Medical Houses.

Should there be any difficulty in obtaining it, enclose fifteen stamps to JOHN WILLIS (as above), and you will ensure the genuine article by return of post. Twenty authentic testimonials, with full directions for use, accompany each packet. Observe that the name of "John Willis" is on every packet.

AGENTS WANTED.

GALVANIC ELECTRICITY.

No. I.

TO INVALIDS, and all unprejudiced persons,
 the following extracts, from Mr. Wesley's works, are respectfully submitted. I have for many years contended that the ELECTRIC or GALVANIC FLUID is itself identical with the NERVOUS FLUID, and that a deficiency, or an irregular distribution of it to the various parts of the system, is the cause of most diseases. Since the Cholera has again made its appearance amongst us, medical writers have discovered the same thing, and have stated, that at those times when the Cholera is most prevalent, the atmosphere will be found to be deficient of this Electric Fluid, and that those whose bodies have not a full supply of it, are most likely to fall victims to the disease; whilst, on the contrary, those whose bodies are saturated with it, escape the ravages of the disease. We also find Dr. Arnott, in his "Elements of Physics," page 523, stating, "And Galvanism can excite the muscles to their usual actions; it affects the secretions and the digestive functions, and the breathing in Asthma." This looks well—it proves there are some men amongst the profession who are willing to admit that Electricity or Galvanism is the principle of Vitality. Well, all that the medical men now say about the Electric Fluid, either as to the diminution of it as being the cause of Cholera (and, as a necessary consequence, the abundance of it being a preventive of Cholera), or its power of assisting the vital functions, was stated by myself more than ten years since, and (unknown to myself until recently) by Mr. Wesley, nearly a hundred years since, as the following extracts will prove.

Read them, ye medical Solons, and see if Mr. Wesley has not told you all that you are now telling the world as regards this universal agent! We must not, however, expect the generality of the Medical Profession to recommend this simple agent, for the drug system, although it is to their patients' death, is to them life. In the words of Mr. Wesley, we cannot expect it till the Gentlemen of the Faculty have more regard to the interest of their neighbours than their own. It would, indeed, be folly to look forward to the arrival of such a time.

WILLIAM HOOPER HALSE,
 Professor of Medical Galvanism,
 22, Brunswick-square, London.

EXTRACTS FROM MR. WESLEY'S WORKS ON THE SUBJECT OF ELECTRICITY.

3rd Edition, 8vo, Vol. II., page 73. Under date Friday, Nov. 16, 1747, he says in his Journal:—"I went with two or three friends to see what are called the Electrical Experiments. How must these also confound those poor half-thinkers, who will believe nothing but what they can comprehend! Who can comprehend how fire lives in water, and passes through it more freely than through air? How flame issues out of my finger—real flame, such as sets fire to spirits of wine? How these and many more strange phenomena arise from the turning round a glass globe? It is all mystery: if haply by any means God may hide pride from man!"

Vol. II., page 279. Journal, Feb. 29, 1756:—"I advised one who had been troubled many years with a stubborn paralytic disorder, to try a new remedy. Accordingly, she was electrified, and found immediate help. By the same means, I have known two persons cured of an inveterate pain in the stomach, and another of pain in his side, which he had ever since he was a child."

Vol. II., page 388. Journal, Nov. 9, 1765:—"Having procured an apparatus on purpose, I ordered several persons to be electrified, who were ill of various disorders; some of whom found an immediate, some a gradual cure. From this time I appointed, first some hours in every week, and afterwards an hour in every day, wherein any that desired it, might try the virtue of this surprising medicine. Two or three years after our patients were so numerous that we were obliged to divide them: so part were electrified in Southwark, part at the Foundry, others near St. Paul's, and the rest near the Seven Dials. The same method we have taken ever since; and, to this day, while hundreds, perhaps thousands, have received unspeakable good, I have not known one man, woman, or child, who has received any hurt thereby. So that when I hear any talk of the danger of being electrified (especially if they are medical men who talk so), I cannot but impute it to great want either of sense or honesty."

Vol. III., page 311. Journal, Monday, Feb. 4, 1758:—"At my leisure hours this week, I read Dr. Priestley's ingenious book on Electricity. He seems to have accurately collected and well digested all that is known on that curious subject. But how little is that all! Indeed the use of it we know; at least in some good degree. We know it is a thousand medicines in one. In particular, that it is the most efficacious medicine, in nervous disorders of every kind, which has ever yet been discovered. But if we aim at theory, we know nothing. We are soon
 "Lost and bewildered in the fruitless search."

Vol. XIV., 256.—Preface to a Pamphlet published by Mr. Wesley in 1760, 12mo, Pp. 72, entitled, "The Desideratum; or, Electricity made Plain and Useful." By a Lover of Mankind and of Common Sense.

"In the following tract, I have endeavoured to comprise the sum of what has been hitherto published. . . . I am not greatly concerned for the philosophical part, whether it stand or fall. . . . I am much more concerned for the physical part, knowing of how great importance this is; how much sickness and pain may be prevented or removed, and how many lives saved, by this unparalleled remedy. And yet with what vehemence it has been opposed! Sometimes by treating it with contempt, as if it were of little or no use; sometimes by arguments, such as they were, and sometimes by such cautions against its ill effects, as made thousands afraid to meddle with it. But so it has fared with almost all the simple remedies which have been offered to the world for many years. . . . And yet it is absolutely certain, that in many, very many cases, it seldom or never fails. . . . And yet there is something peculiarly unaccountable with regard to its operation. In some cases, where there was no hope of help, it will succeed beyond all expectation; in others, where we had the greatest hope, it will have no effect at all. Again, in some experiments, it helps at the very first, and promises a speedy cure; but presently the good effect ceases, and the patient is as he was before. On the contrary, in others it has no effect at first; it does no good; perhaps seems to do hurt. Yet all this time it is striking at the root of the disease, while, in a while, it totally removes. Frequent instances of the former we have in paralysis, of the latter in rheumatic cases. But still, one may, upon the whole, pronounce it the 'Desideratum,' the general and rarely failing remedy in nervous cases of every kind (palades excepted), as well as in many others. Perhaps, if the nerves are really perforated (as is now generally supposed), the electric ether is the only fluid in the universe which is fine enough to move through them. And what, if the nervous juice itself be a fluid of this kind? If so, it is no wonder that it has always eluded the search of the most accurate naturalists. Be this as it may, Mr. Lovell is of opinion, 'the electrical method of treating disorders cannot be expected to arrive at any considerable degree of perfection, till administered and applied by the gentlemen of the Faculty.' Nay, then, *quando de ipsis deciderit*! All my hopes are at an end. For when will it be administered and applied by them? Truly, *ad Gyneceas calendas*. Not till the gentlemen of the Faculty have more regard to the interest of their neighbours than their own. Therefore, without waiting for what probably never will be, and what, indeed, we have no reason to expect, let men of sense do the best they can for themselves, as well as for their poor, sick, helpless neighbours. . . . And, if a few of these lovers of mankind, who have some little knowledge of the animal economy, would only be diligent in making experiments, and setting down the more remarkable of them, in order to communicate them to one another, that each might profit by the other's labour; I doubt not but more nervous disorders would be cured in one year by this simple remedy, than the whole English Materia Medica will cure by the end of the century. . . .

"I only wish some one who has more leisure and ability than I have, would consider it more deeply, and write a full practical

treatise on Electricity, which might be a blessing to many generations."

(To be continued next week.)

Invalids may receive Mr. Halse's Pamphlet on "Medical Galvanism" free, by forwarding him two stamps for the postage of it. His address is 22, Brunswick-square, London.

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TESTIMONIAL FROM A MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

Bloomfield Retreat, Dublin, 12th. mo., 11th, 1848.

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CONTENTS.

ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS:—	POLITICAL:—
A Pretty Kettle of Fish 121	Summary..... 130
The Anti-state-church Movement..... 121	Colonial Reform..... 131
Tractarian Agitation .. 122	The Debate on Hungary 131
The Bible Society and their Bookbinders.... 122	"The Struggles of a Book against Excessive Taxation."..... 132
Religious Intelligence.... 124	Spirit of the Press..... 132
Correspondence..... 124	The Mirror of Parliament 133
Pye Smith Testimonial .. 124	Court, Official, and Personal News..... 137
Voluntary School Association..... 125	Literature..... 137
Law and Police..... 125	Literary Miscellany..... 139
Foreign and Colonial News 126	Gleanings..... 139
Deputations to Government 127	Births, Marriages, &c..... 140
Facts for Social Reformers 128	Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.... 140
Ireland..... 129	The Gazette..... 140
Postscript..... 129	Markets..... 140
	Advertisements..... 140

ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

A PRETTY KETTLE OF FISH.

MR. HORSMAN has lost no time in giving to the country a renewal of his valuable services—valuable, in our judgment, not on account of the object he proposes to accomplish, but on account of the means which he must needs employ in order to attain even partial success. The Honourable Member for Cocker-mouth is a sort of Commissary-General to that band of political and religious reformers who are moving cautiously but steadily, slowly but surely, upon a point yet distant, but which, if there be any uniformity in the laws of human nature, any principle to be relied upon in the general movements of society, they will most certainly reach—namely, a separation of the Church from the State. He is an active, shrewd, and successful purveyor of "useful knowledge" to the forces above alluded to. He has brought together, for their use, a magazine of facts which will serve them most effectually in the prosecution of their righteous contest. He is drawing largely, for their advantage, from the resources of the adversary whose dominion they seek to overthrow. Without intending it, he is pioneering the way for them to a much stronger position than they could have hoped, without some such assistance, to have occupied for some time to come. In fact, he is casting the cannon, and manufacturing the gunpowder, which it will be their duty hereafter to employ in battering down the walls of as time-honoured, but mischief-making a fortress, as this country has ever permitted to exist. Hence, as we have before intimated, we regard the labours of Mr. Horsman with favour and gratitude. We do honour to the purity of his motives, which, perhaps, if more enlightened, would just now be less effective. We admire his zeal, his courage, and his perseverance. And, whether he succeed or not in the attempt which enlists his services, we rejoice in the exposure he is making of concealed rottenness, and the evidence he is accumulating from all quarters, that the Established Church is an institution so corrupt and corrupting, that no remedy can touch it but its entire severance from all political association.

On Tuesday se'nnight, Mr. Horsman, in pursuance of a notice which he had previously given, brought under the cognizance of the House of Commons, a succinct history of the Ecclesiastical Commission. We think we may fairly take this body as illustrative of the spirit which animates a Church establishment, when subject to no efficient external control. The composition of this Commission has not been always the same; but, practically, it has always given scope for the exercise, by the highest dignitaries of the Church, of an ascendant, and, indeed, irresistible influence. If its acts may be regarded as representing any one thing rather than another, they may be set down, as correctly expressive of episcopal propensities, in relation to ecclesiastical management.

What, then, is the conclusion to which every impartial observer must be driven, on being made

acquainted with the proceedings of this Commission, from 1836 up to the present moment? We will defy the most zealous, nay, the most unscrupulous, partizan, to put his finger upon a single act of this Commission, indicative of a supreme concern for the promotion of religion. So far as the evidence goes, there would seem to have been the absence of the most ordinary desire to benefit the Church, regarded merely as a system of ecclesiastical machinery. Large funds received and disbursed, without the commonest precaution in keeping accounts—business arrangements framed with a view, not to its satisfactory transaction, but to humour the pride of station, to give facility for the perpetration of jobs, and to destroy all sense, if any such existed, of personal responsibility—tricks resorted to, of which all parties are so ashamed, that all parties profess to be in ignorance as to how, or by whom, they were successfully practised—a Secretary, who is also Treasurer, doing as it pleased him with funds amounting to little less than one million sterling, rendering no accounts, checked by no supervision, speculating in railways to an enormous extent, and, at last, decamping with a sum, the full amount of which it is difficult to ascertain—right reverend prelates intent upon building palaces, exchanging estates, feathering their nests, and practically defeating the very object which they were appointed to carry out—and finally, spiritual destitution, suffered to remain uncared-for, or, so far cared-for only, as to put a gilding of sanctity upon prelate selfishness, and worldly cupidity—such things constitute the upshot of this Ecclesiastical Commission, and such, we maintain, is the natural fruit of arrangements, which aim at promoting Christianity, by placing national wealth, honour, and power, at the disposal of men assuming to be its guardians.

Such a statement of facts as that submitted to the House of Commons by Mr. Horsman could not, of course, be allowed to pass unquestioned. The Home Secretary, on behalf of the Whig Government, which, by-the-bye, is a servile tool of restless and ambitious Churchmen, tried his hand, not without a show of earnest anxiety, in tearing up the indictment which had been so carefully framed by the hon. member for Cocker-mouth. But the toughness of its texture resisted the efforts of Sir G. Grey. He strained his energies to the utmost, but, unable to get rid of the awkward facts which stood in his way, he hinted that Mr. Horsman's description of them had been drawn by his own "fertile imagination"—an imputation entirely set aside by the declaration of the Church reformer, that he had culled his evidence almost exclusively from that given before committees of the House of Commons. Probably, the conviction that the Home Secretary had utterly failed in his attempt to shake the substantial statement of Mr. Horsman, induced the Archbishop of Canterbury, on Monday night, when a motion was made for the second reading of the Government bill for altering the Ecclesiastical Commission, to venture upon a late and somewhat lame defence of his prelate brethren. The Primate avers that the whole expenses incurred in the repair of episcopal palaces do not amount to more than £9,000. But he adds, that the exaggerated report which has been given to the public may have arisen from the large exchanges of property in various counties, which had been recently made for the benefit of various sees. We do not clearly perceive how, even if this be the case, the matter is mended by it. It is clear enough that, in some shape or other, the large funds accruing to the Commissioners from the surplus of the richer sees have been expended, not in supplying spiritual destitution, but in furnishing munificent incomes to lordly bishops—and whether this has been effected by the exchange of lands, or by the intervention of money, it leaves the character of such proceedings entirely unaltered. The explanation, if it were worth a doit, would have been eagerly offered a year ago, at least—for the charge against the Commission is by no means a recent one.

It would appear from the statement of Lord Lansdowne, that the ecclesiastical funds in the hands of the Commissioners, arising in part from

the excess of bishops' incomes, and, to a still larger extent, from the suppression of certain cathedral sinecures, amount already to some £170,000 a year, and are likely before long to reach a total of £300,000. The monies derived from these two sources of income, it is proposed to constitute into a single consolidated fund, to be managed exclusively by three commissioners, two of them paid, and the third honorary. The Archbishop of Canterbury is to have the nomination of one of the paid commissioners, the Crown of the other. We know not how Mr. Horsman will view this arrangement. For our own part, we believe that it will only result in the more clever achievement of the same ends, as those which were bunglingly attained by the disgraced Commission. A note of warning has already been given. Lord Stanley has raised a cry for more bishops. The Whigs have given full proof of their readiness to listen to that cry. Depend upon it, the aristocracy will have the lion's portion of those funds which Mr. Horsman is anxious to apply to the religious instruction of the poor. He may now see what kind of reform may be expected from the dignitaries of the Establishment. They have had their own way; and no one more bitterly than he will confess, that "a pretty kettle of fish" they have made of it.

THE ANTISTATE-CHURCH MOVEMENT.

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, the 6th inst., a meeting of the Council of the Association was held at Radley's Hotel, Blackfriars, to deliberate on the time and place for holding the approaching Triennial Conference, as well as on the constitution of that body, and the business to be brought before it. As this was an adjourned meeting, the attendance of country members was less numerous than at the annual meeting, but there were present several gentlemen from distant parts of the country.

At eleven o'clock EDWARD SWAINE, Esq., was called to the Chair, and the business was commenced by the reading of a Report from the Executive Committee, containing a detailed plan respecting the Conference. This having been received, and a number of letters, containing various suggestions from absent members, having been read, the several passages of the Report were discussed *seriatim*, and the whole, with some slight alterations, was afterwards put and adopted. As the meeting was exclusively of a business character, and the Executive Committee took the opinion of the Council on several points in relation to which their arrangements are not yet matured, we do not think it right to give more than the leading features of the plan agreed to.

It was arranged that the Conference should be held in the week occurring between the Baptist and London Missionary Societies' Anniversaries, to begin on Tuesday, April 30, and to sit on that and the following two days, from ten o'clock a.m. till four o'clock p.m. It was stated that the Reform Association had originally fixed to hold their Conference on the 7th of April, but, on its being suggested to the Committee that it was desirable that the two conferences should immediately follow each other, they altered the date to the 23rd of April. The theatre of the City of London Institution, Aldersgate-street, will be engaged for the occasion. The Committee had applied for Crosby-hall, but the use of it was refused, on the ground that a committee of Churchmen, who had engaged it for lectures to young men, had stipulated that it should not be let for political purposes.

The Conference is to consist of (1) delegates appointed by public meetings, or meetings of congregations publicly convened; and (2) of delegates appointed in writing by persons residing in any town, borough, or parish, or in more than one united; the signatures of not fewer than fifty persons being required for one delegate, and not fewer than one hundred for two delegates. At the last Conference, members of the Association were admitted; but, in order to preserve the representative character of the Assembly, it will on this occasion be confined to delegates. Inquiry was made whether they could be admitted as spectators, to which it was replied, that in all probability the theatre would

not afford room for others than delegates. As a set-off against this alteration, the signature of fifty persons only is required to elect a delegate, instead of one hundred as formerly. It is, however, expected that, in the majority of instances, the elections will be by public meetings convened for the purpose; and it was urged, that when meetings of congregations are held, not only should delegates be appointed, but advantage taken of the occurrence to disseminate anti-state-church principles. The 18th of April is the day named for sending in nominations.

The travelling and other expenses of the delegates are to be defrayed by the delegates or their constituents; and, as heretofore, each delegate is expected to be furnished with the means of defraying a fair proportion of the expenses of the Conference. All these expenses are to be met by special contributions, and not by the application of any portion of the local subscriptions, which will be required for carrying on the ordinary operations of the society.

The Committee stated their intention to arrange, if possible, for the entertainment of some of the delegates; a hope being expressed that the friends of the association in London would give practical proof of their approbation of such a proposal. It is also proposed to hold a social tea-party during the sittings of the Conference, to afford an opportunity for the free expression of opinion and for the communication of information on the part of the county delegates. A great public meeting is to be held, as usual, but the place is not yet decided upon.

Several subjects were mentioned as proper to be brought before the Conference, the most important of them being,—the *Regium Donum*, the Irish Church, recent events in the State Church, the Anti-state-church press, and the increase of political power on the part of those who hold the Society's principles, by obtaining possession of the franchise.

With respect to the election of the officers, the Executive Committee, and the Council, which forms part of the business of the Triennial Conference, a change in the mode of election is proposed. Hitherto they have been chosen by the whole Conference, but as it is found impossible by that method to obtain a legislative and executive body composed of parties known to be willing to act, and fairly representing the supporters of the society throughout the country, it is intended to submit to the Conference, that it shall appoint a Committee of twelve (three being members of the old Executive Committee), to prepare lists of officers, Executive Committee, and Council; such lists being afterwards separately submitted to the Conference for its approval. The members of the Conference are to be requested to send in the names of suitable parties to the Committee.

The discussion on these and other questions was carried on with considerable animation, and in a most amicable spirit. At the close of the business relating to the Conference, the Executive Committee presented a special report on the subject of Mr. Roebuck's intended motion on the Irish Church. They were prepared to commence a vigorous agitation in support of it, and wished for the opinion of the Council whether an attempt should be made to carry on the movement in London, by means of a Committee composed of persons favourable to this specific object. The result of the conversation was a resolution to the effect that the Committee should employ the resources of the Association, and avail themselves of the advantages which their organization gave them.

The business having been brought to a conclusion, the thanks of the Council were voted to Mr. Swaine for his patient conduct in the chair, and the meeting separated about three o'clock.

BRIGHTON.—On Tuesday, the 29th ult., the Anti-state-church Association held its first meeting in the town of Brighton, on which occasion, every corner of the Town Hall, which holds above 1,000 persons, was filled. Isaac Baas, Esq. (Quaker), occupied the chair, and Mr. Thompson, M.P., and the Rev. D. Katterns, were announced as the deputation, but Mr. Thompson having consented to supply Mr. Roebuck's place at a Reform meeting at Norwich, Mr. Miall, on the morning of the day on which the meeting was to be held, posted down, "in hot haste," as his substitute. The speeches of the deputation were warmly received, and Mr. Cox, who seconded a vote of thanks to them, said that the only fault he had to find with them was that they had not visited Brighton sooner, as he should have thought they would have done, considering how many places of worship it contained which had been built and were supported by Voluntaryism. On this subject Mr. Miall said, "If he were to take simply the ecclesiastical state of Brighton as a guide to his conclusions, or to his anticipations previously to actual evidence, he might have expected this beautiful edifice to have been filled that evening chiefly by Church people, and this platform to have been occupied chiefly by clergymen [hear, hear]. He believed that Brighton afforded a very sufficient evidence to the whole country that there was no necessity for State provision in order to furnish forth the means of celebrating worship within the precincts of the parish. Twelve out of fourteen of the churches had been built upon the voluntary principle, and he supposed twelve out of the fourteen of the clergymen were supported by the voluntary offerings of the congregation; and inasmuch as these had tested the value of the Voluntary Principle, and had found it all-sufficient in their case, he should rather have anticipated that they, anxious to give their testimony in favour of the boat which had carried them safely over, would have been here this evening to say that, so far as populous parishes

were concerned—whatever might be the case with rural districts,—they could bear witness there was no necessity for the compulsory principle or the intermeddling of the State [hear, hear]. The *Brighton Herald*, which contains a pretty full report, says of the meeting, "It was one of the most orderly and quiet popular meetings we ever attended."

LUDLOW.—On Monday evening, February 4th, a public meeting was held at Ludlow, in the large room belonging to the Golden Lion, which was inconveniently crowded with an attentive audience. Mr. Kingsley and the Rev. Maurice Jones, of Leominster, attended as a deputation from the Executive Committee. The meeting had been announced to be held at the Town Hall, the Mayor having promised the use of it for the occasion; but before the meeting took place, certain influences were brought to bear upon him which led him to withdraw his permission. The meeting, notwithstanding this disappointment, was a large and effective one, contrasting very favourably with the strange apathy which the Dissenters in this town, with very rare exceptions, manifest in relation to their distinctive principles. So far as our experience of this and neighbouring towns instructs us, we are entitled to say that upon no public question do the people show greater readiness to hear and to be instructed than upon this of the Anti-state-church Association, and a fine opportunity is presented to those who value the spirituality and purity of the Christian Church to exhibit their principles. The very existence of such opportunity assuredly devolves upon such persons a most solemn duty.—*From a Correspondent.*

LEOMINSTER.—Mr. Kingsley attended a very successful meetings at this places last week.

APPROACHING MEETINGS.—During this and next week the Rev. Joseph Fletcher, of Christchurch, and Mr. Kingsley, visit several towns in Staffordshire and the adjoining counties; the meetings being thus fixed—Hanley, February 12th; Burslem, 13th; Stone, 14th; Leek, 15th; Congleton, 18th; Macclesfield, 19th; Wellington, 20th; Stafford, 21st. In the following week Mr. Kingsley will be engaged lecturing in the neighbourhood of Halifax; and on the 4th of March will be joined by the Rev. J. P. Mursell, and will, it is expected, attend meetings with him at Rotherham, Sheffield, Wakefield, Huddersfield, Halifax, Bradford, York, and Hull. These and other meetings will afford a favourable opportunity for the appointment of delegates to the Conference.

KINGTON, HEREFORDSHIRE.—A public meeting was held in this town on Wednesday, February 6th, to receive the deputation from the Anti-state-church Association, J. Kingsley, Esq., of London; and the Rev. Maurice Jones, of Leominster. The chair was occupied by R. Norman Edwards, Esq., treasurer of the Local Committee. Rev. H. B. Bliss moved the first resolution, and gave a brief account of the society's operations during the past year. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Aaron Rogers, of Stansback. The second resolution was proposed by Rev. Maurice Jones, who ably explained the object of the Association, and illustrated some of its most important principles. Mr. Kingsley followed, giving an admirable address, of considerable length, in the course of which he very forcibly explained the duty of Dissenters with respect to the great question of separation. The meeting was exceedingly well attended both as to numbers and the character of the audience, and the remarks of the several speakers were received with much applause. A local Committee has been formed, and seems resolved to carry on the work with spirit. In this neighbourhood the prospects of the Association are altogether most cheering; everything indicates progress. Right principles are becoming extensively diffused, and in spite of the customary obstacles are almost as extensively professed. We wait hopefully for the "good time coming."

ROCHDALE.—On Friday, the 8th inst., a public meeting of the Anti-state-church Association was held in the Public-hall, Baillie-street, which was well filled. John Petrie, Esq., presided, and commenced the proceedings by reading an extract from the Annual Report, which showed the Association to be in a flourishing condition, and after a few pertinent observations on the necessity of separating the Church from the State, the chairman called on J. Kingsley, Esq., B.A., the deputation from London. Mr. Kingsley addressed the audience at considerable length, pointing out the necessity for the separation which they were met to promote. Subsequently the meeting was addressed by several other gentlemen. The late hour at which our reporter returned, prevents us giving any report of the proceedings. In our Wednesday publication we shall give a more detailed account of the meeting. *Manchester Examiner.*

NEW ECCLESIASTICAL COURT OF APPEAL.—The *Guardian* is enabled to state, "on authority," that the new court of appeal proposed by the Bishop of London is intended to consist of the following persons:—The Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the three senior bishops, according to the date of their consecration, the Lord Chancellor, the Dean of the Court of Arches, the Judge of the Consistory Court of London, the Regius and Margaret Professors of Divinity of Oxford and Cambridge.

IRISH CHURCH REVENUES AND THE POOR.—The Limerick Board of Guardians have adopted a resolution, that "tithes should be appropriated to the support of the poor." The *Cork Examiner* remarks, "This is one of the first effective steps taken in the Church direction since 1832."

TRACTARIAN AGITATION.

From the *Church and State Gazette*, which may be described as the organ of that party amongst the Episcopal body whom nothing would induce to give up the profitable connexion with the State, we extract the following:—

"If we may believe (which, without offence, we do not) the correspondent of the *Oxford Herald*, something like the same readiness to obey the signal for war against the Queen's supremacy will attend the summons just issued and the alarm just beaten in various churches of the metropolis. The movement, we are told, has begun. It is one having in view not only the abolition of the royal supremacy in certain points of government over the Church, but the entire disruption of the union between Church and State. A combined force of clergy and laymen have already addressed the Archbishop of Canterbury to ask him to aid in stripping his royal mistress of the brightest jewel in her crown—that of her connexion with the Church of these realms as the temporal head. His Grace takes time to consider his reply; meanwhile a select committee meet almost daily, of whose determination little is further known than that it has been resolved upon not to address Parliament upon the subject, on the plea that that body has members who do not belong to the Church, and who, therefore, have no right to legislate on this particular question. Meanwhile (says the London correspondent of the *Oxford Herald*) several of the London clergy are preparing their congregations for the struggle that is to take place; and in some instances there is no doubt they will carry their people along with them, either wholly or in great part, in the resistance they are about to offer to any longer control of the Church by the State. In one west-end church, on Sunday morning, a sermon of great force and ability was preached upon the subject and produced a powerful impression. It was mainly confined to an enunciation of the principles upon which the Church must be based, if it is to maintain its true character and exert its due influence as a divine institution; and next Sunday, it was promised, another sermon will be devoted to the important subject, in which the views and intentions of the preacher and those who are acting with him will be distinctly set forth—views and intentions in which the congregation at large are to be persuaded to coincide, and to which many of them have already given their unqualified assent. Two, if not three, Cabinet Ministers are members of this congregation. They, of course, cannot be expected to concur in such objects. But there is every reason to believe that the great bulk of the congregation will do so; for their pastor has great influence with them, and it is understood that they sympathize cordially with him in all his feelings and wishes upon this momentous question—momentous as directly involving a separation of Church and State, and to which they will, to all appearance, virtually commit themselves. How they will then proceed—where they will find a church in which to worship—under what discipline they will place themselves—in what quarter they will recognise episcopal authority—these and many other considerations are yet to be decided upon. They are difficulties, one would think, which most men would deem insurmountable. But probably they think that sufficient for the day is the evil thereof, and that it is of no use giving way to apprehensions when all the moral courage they can muster is requisite to sustain them in the arduous task they have undertaken. The church referred to is, we suppose, Mr. Bennett's church at Knightsbridge, from which one curate at least has passed over to make Rome complacent at the course which sent him thither."

THE BIBLE SOCIETY AND THEIR BOOKBINDERS.

In consequence of the agitation which has taken place respecting the payment of the binders employed on the publications issued by the Bible Society, the Committee of the Southwark Auxiliary Association, in the month of January, appointed a sub-committee "to investigate certain statements respecting the binder for the British and Foreign Bible Society and the female workers in her employ." Their report, which has been published as a tract, is signed by Messrs. John Brown, John Burrup, W. Churchill, and Josiah W. Wymper, and contains their unanimous conclusions. With the consent of Miss Watkins, the contractress, they visited her establishment, with the view of corroborating or disproving her statement as to the uniform scale of wages paid before and since the strike:—

The sub-committee, on being introduced to the shop, immediately separated, and went to four different parts of the building, putting whatever inquiries they pleased to the workers; and the result proved that entire satisfaction prevailed among those employed; and that before the strike and now they could earn 9s., 10s., 11s., 12s., and in one case, 13s. per week, according to their ability, and when in full work.

During the time the sub-committee were thus employed Mr. Watkins kept in one place, at a considerable distance from them, and was wholly unacquainted with the course of proceeding adopted. To complete this part of their investigation, the sub-committee deemed it desirable to see as many as six of the journeywomen who formerly worked for the contractress, and left at the period of the strike: they were sent to the sub-committee from a printing establishment where they are now partially employed.

They were examined separately. They had worked for Miss Watkins for three, thirteen, eighteen, twenty, twenty-one, and thirty-six months respectively; and from their testimony the sub-committee learned that the price paid for work when they left was the same it always had been, as far as their knowledge went.

These women also stated that the Bible Society's work constituted by far the greatest portion of their employment, and that this work was always better paid for than any other in the shop. As to the wages that they did or could earn at Miss Watkins's, the statements of these women varied; two of them declared that they could not earn more than 7s. 6d. per week; the four remaining admitted that they did get 7s. 6d., but they could and did sometimes earn 9s. per week.

On the subject of wages the sub-committee remark, that, could the folders be employed for full time on pearl Bibles alone, it is apparent that their wages would range from 11s. to 14s. per week; but employed as they now are, and allowing for the possibility of the statements being somewhat strained on both sides (although they do not know this to be the case), they come to the conclusion, that, at the present rate of payment, a good hand in constant employment, can earn, according to ability, 9s. to 12s. per week. The committee also report favourably for the contracters on the subject of fines. They examined the "fines-book," for a year back, and "were quite surprised at the insignificant amount altogether. With regard to the comforts and convenience of the women employed, they report that "they are unquestionably excellent workshops in every respect." In conclusion, the sub-committee request attention to the following facts:—

1. That the contract between the Bible Society and Miss Watkins had been worked for about four years, without any public complaint of hardship or injustice towards the workers having been made till July 1849.

2. That (they speak here on Mr. Watkins's authority) in February and March last, Miss Watkins had 10,000 Bibles to bind, not the British and Foreign Bible Society's work, and was much pressed with business. The men struck for extra wages on this job: the demand was resisted, and, at considerable trouble, other hands were procured from Scotland, and the order completed. In consequence of this, Miss Watkins resolved that no person should in future be employed on her premises connected with the "Trades' Union." Miss Watkins did not object to employ the men, but made it a condition that, on entering her shop, they should secede from that body. The same regulation is still enforced.

3. After this, the first "Appeal" from the Trades' Union appeared.

4. The six women before referred to, stated that when the Appeal was read to them, of which they had not before heard, they resolved to strike; because, as one of them said, "We heard that some gentlemen were going to take up our cause."

Directly they left their work, the Trades' Union adopted them all, without any previous apparent connexion. The six witnesses stated, that, from the first, all who were not in work were paid by the Union 4s. per week, afterwards 5s., then 6s. 6d., and now 6s. per week; 103 persons being the number thus maintained, when the information was given. Thus it will be seen, that, by this act, the Trades' Union have made it the interest of all these parties to seek and secure the objects contemplated by their association.

In the letter to the Committee of the Bible Society, embodying the above Report, the Committee of the Southwark branch "express the hope that it may be—as they venture to think it ought to be—satisfactory on every point to the subscribers to the British and Foreign Bible Society." From an advertisement published elsewhere, it will be seen that a rejoinder to this letter has appeared.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—Two exciting meetings have been held in the parish of Walthamstow, for the purpose of obtaining the sanction of the parishioners to the purchase of a parochial burial-ground, in connexion with the present churchyard. The first of these was held on the 24th ult., when a string of resolutions was brought forward by the churchwardens, which, if they had been agreed to, would have involved an expense of from £1,000 to £1,500. This was stoutly opposed by the Anti-state-church party, who urged the usual objections to compulsory payments for ecclesiastical purposes. Mr. Beggs, late of the Health of Towns Association, addressed the meeting with considerable effect, showing the ill effects of interments in or near churches, and burial-grounds attached to places of public resort. The meeting was also addressed by Mr. Ebenezer Clarke, Mr. Burrell, tenant farmer, Mr. Ebenezer Clarke, jun., and other gentlemen. A division was called for on the first resolution; an amendment was moved by Mr. Clarke, and a majority of hands were held up for the amendment; a poll was demanded, the result of which was declared to be in favour of the Church party, and the meeting abruptly dissolved by the Chairman, the vicar. The second meeting was held on Thursday, the 7th inst., to pass the remainder of the resolutions, when the vestry was honoured by the presence of the vicar, his curates and district clergymen, the churchwardens, and three members of Parliament, viz., Messrs. Masterman, Sidney, and Copeland, aided by the bell-ringers, beadle, and sexton, the organist, and the church clerk, and every dependent the Church party could influence to bring to the contest. The Anti-state-church party were not idle; and the parish bore rather the appearance of a contested election than the quiet country village. The vicar, in this instance, declined taking the chair. On opening the business, Mr. Clarke objected to the record of the former proceedings on the ground of informality, upon which the first decision took place; the majority seemed to be with the adverse party to the proceedings, but the Chairman declared the victory in favour of the friends of the new burial-ground. The churchwardens then read his resolutions, and endeavoured to show the necessity for carrying them. A resolution was moved to this effect by Mr. Cotesworth, and supported by G. F. Young, Esq., the Protectionist, John Masterman, Esq., M.P., Mr.

Alderman Copeland, M.P., and partially by Mr. Alderman Sidney, M.P., and other gentlemen. Upon which an amendment was moved by Mr. T. Beggs, and supported by Messrs. Burrell, Clarke, Clarke, jun., and others, requesting delay until the decision of the Government may be known on the subject of general cemeteries, in which the arguments were introduced against compulsory measures for religious purposes, which evidently told upon the large assembly. Several decisions took place—the numbers were so nearly balanced that at length the advocates and opponents were obliged to take different sides of the School-room, to which the vestry had adjourned in consequence of the large number of parishioners which had assembled. The resolutions were carried by a small majority, and the meeting dispersed. Upon the whole, the advocates of the abolition of church-rates, and all compulsory payments on account of religious purposes, have much reason to congratulate themselves upon the growth and success of right principles and common sense in this parish. A few years ago it was impossible to prevail on ten persons to oppose a church-rate, but on recent occasions it has required all the influence of the clergy and their dependents, the squirearchy and their servants, and three members of the Imperial Parliament, who did not add much to the brilliancy of the debate, by their arguments or eloquence, to stay the torrent of public opinion on the great question of the day; and it is quite evident that even in this parish, renowned for its High Church and antiquated propensities, the end of clerical domination and church influence is drawing near to its final overthrow.—*From a Correspondent.*

THE WESLEYAN DELEGATE MEETING is to be held on the 12th of March. The *Wesleyan Times* says that it is pretty well known that the order has gone forth to issue process against every man chosen as a delegate, and to time their trials so as to prevent them from taking their places in that assembly. Our contemporary further says,—"Already we hear of the appointment of more than six hundred delegates; giving, on an average of three per circuit, at least two hundred circuits which have taken measures to be represented in this important, and, as we believe it will be, most eventful gathering. It seems highly probable, at this rate, that only a small number of circuits will be found unrepresented. Having had opportunities of seeing the returns, we can assure our readers that the delegates will fairly represent the intelligence, influence, and even wealth, of the body. A great number of them are trustees, and most of them hold other offices which imply the highest connexional respectability. One most significant circumstance is, the many instances in which the circuit stewards have been elected."

RESTRAINTS FOR CHURCH-RATES IN THE PARISH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE.—We understand, that on Monday the agents of the law effected a razzia in the above parish for Church-rates not paid. From the Friends' meeting-house, Houndsditch, which it seems is no more spared than private dwellings, were taken 44 chairs; from the premises of Mr. T. Butler, Houndsditch, 70 brushes and mops; from Messrs. Peirson and Son, 13 coppers, valued at £8 16s., were taken; and £14 worth of books, engravings, &c., from the shop of Mr. Charles Gilpin, the publisher, of Bishopsgate-street.

CLERICAL COURT NEWS.—A correspondent of the *North Devon Journal* (January 31), signing himself "A Clergyman of this Miserable Diocese," says:—"In conversation at Windsor, not long ago, a nobleman remarked that a tremendous issue was at hand, whichever way the decision (in the Gorham case) was given, for either the Evangelical clergy or the Tractarians in a body must leave the Church. The Queen instantly said, 'Then, my lord, if that is the case, and if I have any hand in it, you shall soon see which party shall leave the Church.' I have this anecdote upon the authenticity of a nobleman who was an ear-witness to the conversation recorded." If this be true, the Puseyites may be packing up their carpet-bags.

THE LONDON UNION ON CHURCH MATTERS have published a series of papers. The first contains certain resolutions adopted by the Union to the effect, that the Church is the only competent judge of Church matters. The second is a form of petition to the Queen, substantially praying her to lay down her supremacy, and allow the Church in all things to rule itself. The third is a form of petition to the Archbishop of Canterbury, praying the Lord Primate to move Convocation to a consideration of the above questions; and the fourth is, another form of petition, to be addressed to the bishops by the clergy of their respective dioceses, praying them to join the Archbishop in carrying out the matter named in the resolutions to a successful issue.

WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.—Charges have been preferred against the Rev. James Bromley, Wesleyan minister of this city, arising out of the part he has taken in the question relating to the ministers whom the last Conference expelled. The accusers are, the Revs. Hugh Jones, James Lea, and George F. White. Mr. Bromley has demanded a mixed court, resting his demand upon one of the "Articles of Pacification," which article he regards as fundamental in the discipline of the community. The clause is in these words:—"No preacher shall be suspended or removed from his circuit, by any district committee, except he have the privilege of the trial before mentioned," i. e., by a court constituted of "all the trustees, stewards, and leaders of the circuit," and the preachers of the district.—*Bath Gazette.*

EXPULSION OF THE EDITOR OF THE "WESLEYAN TIMES."—Our columns to-day contain a fresh instance of ecclesiastical despotism on the part of the

dominant faction of the Wesleyan Conference. The editor of this journal has been expelled, by one of the chief actors in the Manchester Inquisition, for the crime of editorship! Our professional brethren, both in the metropolis and the provinces, will doubtless be surprised to learn that editing a public journal is a crime of such magnitude as to merit the extremest penalty a modern Ecclesiastical Conclave can inflict—that of excommunication.—*Wesleyan Times.*

THE REFORM MOVEMENT.—Meetings of an influential character in favour of Parliamentary and Financial Reform have been held at Coventry, Leicester, Greenwich, Derby, and Nottingham, at which the necessity of extending the franchise, and of aiding Liberal members of Parliament in their efforts to deliver the House of Commons from the nominees of peers, and to lessen the national expenditure, were strongly insisted on. Respecting the Leicester meeting, the *Mercury* says:—"We observe that our contemporary the *Journal*, after bestowing a passing sneer at the 'motley gathering' assembled, notices that the old Whig leaders were absent. This statement is true, and for the sake of those old leaders—who once were great advocates of popular rights—is to be regretted; but so far as the cause of Parliamentary and Financial Reform is concerned, their presence or absence is a matter of little consequence. Half-and-half friends are worse enemies than active opponents. But the names of the gentlemen present we have given in our report, prove that the great majority of the influential Liberals of Leicester remain faithful to the professions of their early political life.—We are glad to find that both our representatives adhere so staunchly to the creed they have always upheld, and the pledges they gave at their election; and we are still more pleased to be able to announce that the committee of the branch association formed on Tuesday evening, are already taking active steps to discharge the duties with which they have been entrusted." At Nottingham, Mr. O'Connor, (one of the M.P.'s for the borough), did not show his face. The *Western Times*, in reference to the movement, says:—"We find a very earnest spirit arising among the yeomanry, who find that they must really look to this quarter for relief from the heavy burdens under which they are suffering. If the farmers exert themselves, we shall soon see the county members moving resolutions on the economical platform. A meeting was held on Wednesday, at Taunton, when it was resolved to form a society, to be called 'The Taunton branch of the National Parliamentary and Reform Association.'"

THE RECENT STORM.—The gale of Wednesday morning occasioned a fearful loss of life and property on every point of the coast. The "Lord Duncan," Mr. Knapman master, of Dartmouth, was seen to go ashore on a part of the coast called Morgan Porth. The breakers quickly shattered her to pieces, and every soul on board perished. Similar events occurred off Ilfracombe, where a Fowey vessel was wrecked with all hands; and at Brixham and other ports, as far as the Land's-end. About four miles to the eastward of Boscombe, on the Cornwall coast, a fine Spanish brig, called the "Principe Alberto," M. de Galdiz, bound from Glasgow to Havannah, was lost, and the escape of the crew was only effected by the coast guard throwing them Dennett's rocket lines. On the Welsh coast, both on land and sea, greater mischief was produced. Numerous buildings at Aberystwith were blown down; the church suffered considerably. At Cardigan an appalling wreck occurred. A vessel was just on the verge of crossing the bar, when she was thrown on a formidable shoal, and the next moment the breakers made a formidable breach over her. Eleven of the crew were swept overboard and drowned; the master and a seaman being the only parties saved. The vessel was the "Thetis," belonging to Limerick. In the St. George's Channel, a fine American ship, the "John P. Whitney," was wrecked. The crew and passengers took to the boats (two), and were picked up by a steam tug and conveyed to Liverpool. On the Isle of Man the gale led to the well-known windmill at Castle-town being destroyed by fire. The wind having got hold of the sails, forced round the machinery with such force, that the friction set the mill on fire, and the entire building with its outhouses were consumed. On the northern and eastern coast, the fury of the gale was more severe. Even in the Thames, near Southend, several serious wrecks happened with fatal consequences. A laden brig was seen to go down, and there is every reason to believe every soul perished. In a small fishing place called Staithes, to the eastward of Bridlington, four or five fishing vessels, with their crews, were lost. On the western coast of Scotland the gale did fearful havoc. The "Jubilee," of Sunderland, was lost, and five of the crew were drowned. At Ardrossan a fine steamer was burnt while the gale may be said to have been at its height.

PATRICK O'CONNOR, at the time of his murder, was reported to have been worth from £7,000 to £8,000. His property of all kinds has scarcely realized as many hundreds; and the explanation is, that much of the railway scrip and other documents which he was in the habit of exhibiting, and which no doubt inflamed the cupidity of the Mannings, has turned out to be purely fictitious.

THE SALE AT MARLBOROUGH-HOUSE.—The sale of the first portion of her late Majesty the Queen Dowager's property was completed on Friday. The sale has been remarkably productive, a sum approaching £10,000 having been already realized, exclusive of the amount for which the plate was sold to Lord Albert Denison.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

LECTURES TO THE WORKING CLASSES.—The Christian Instruction Society concluded its lectures to the working classes, at the Literary and Scientific Institute, Paddington, on Wednesday evening, Jan. 30. The lecturers have been the Rev. Dr. Jenkyn, R. Ashton, S. Luke, J. C. Galloway, M.A., and William Forster. The attendance has been large and the interest well sustained. The subjects have awakened attention, and have led to discussions among the men themselves. The Hawkstone Hall Lectures (second series), are proceeding with much spirit and encouragement. Four have been already delivered by Rev. J. Bigwood, J. Adey, Geo. Smith, and J. Waddington. Three yet remain to be delivered by the Rev. David Thomas, J. Aldis, and Dr. Massie. Lectures, also, are arranged to be delivered at the British School, Homerton-row, during the present month.

SIMULTANEOUS LECTURES TO THE WORKING CLASSES ON SUNDAY EVENING, JANUARY 27.—The result of these lectures is stated to have been highly gratifying. More than thirty ministers engaged in these services. The chapels were attended by large numbers, and, in some cases, were crowded. The audiences appeared to listen with the deepest interest to the addresses and appeals made by the respective preachers. In some cases, prayer-meetings were held after the lectures, and many remained to worship. The ministers who lectured have expressed themselves as deeply interested in the novel service, and some have resolved to repeat the effort either in single or continuous lectures. Several who could not, from previous engagements, have a special service on that evening, have consented to preach as early as possible. Two objects were contemplated by this movement, in connexion with the week-day lectures and the distribution of the Committee's letter, namely, to awaken the attention of the churches to the peculiar claims of that portion of the working class that do not attend the ordinary ministrations of the gospel; and to create an interest among the men themselves by those repeated attempts to promote their religious welfare.

LUTON UNION CHAPEL.—On Wednesday, January 30th, the friends connected with the above place of worship held their annual tea-meeting. The spacious school-room was decorated with flowers, evergreens, transparencies, &c., and the attendance was as numerous as on any former occasion. Nearly 600 sat down to tea, at tables most liberally and gratuitously provided by the friends in order that the whole of the proceeds might be applied to the liquidation of the chapel debt. The best feelings appeared to prevail, and all evidently enjoyed the service of the evening. After an opening address by the Rev. R. Robinson, speeches were delivered by the Revs. J. Lance, J. J. Davies, and J. Gould, neighbouring ministers, and also by the Revs. Dr. Archer and T. Aveling, from London; the Revs. J. Hiron and J. Johnson conducted the devotional services.

BURNLEY.—On Thursday evening, January 31, a very interesting tea-meeting was held in the infant-school of Bethesda Chapel. The company numbered more than 100 persons, all members of the various Bible-classes conducted by the minister and other friends, excepting several Sabbath-school teachers, who presided at the different tables; and, in the course of the evening, W. Lomas and John Massey, Esqs., presented to the pastor, in the name of the young people, several volumes of valuable works, in acknowledgment of his efforts to promote their scriptural knowledge and spiritual good by means of Bible-classes.

THE REV. ROBERT HAMILTON, of King's Lynn, Norfolk, has accepted a unanimous call from the church and congregation assembling at Barbican Chapel, London, and will enter upon his new scene of labour some time during the month of March next. The course which this highly esteemed minister has felt warranted in pursuing has occasioned much regret amongst his people.—*From a Correspondent.*

SHEPPARD'S BARTON, FROME.—This chapel, erected in 1707, having been for some years showing signs of decay, became at length unsafe, and as increased accommodation was desired, it was taken down, rebuilt, and considerably enlarged. The new edifice was opened by Revs. W. Jay, of Bath, and James Hamilton, of London. Dinner and tea were gratuitously provided for visitors, of which a hundred partook. After dinner a very interesting narrative of the early history of the church, compiled from the old church books by John Sheppard, Esq., senior deacon, was read; and addresses were delivered by Revs. James Hamilton, C. J. Middleditch, Charles Stanford, J. Sprigg, A.M., and R. Morris, of Clifton. On the following Sabbath sermons were preached, in the morning by Dr. Murch, formerly associated with John Foster as pastor of the church, and subsequently President of Stepney College; and in the evening by S. Manning, the present pastor. The collections amounted to about £60.

TUTBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.—The Rev. Samuel Evans, of Hackney College, and afterwards of Wellington, Salop, having accepted the pastorate at this place, and entered upon his labours on the first Sabbath in October last, was publicly recognised by the following interesting and solemn services:—On Monday evening, Feb. 4, the Rev. F. J. Falding, M.A., of Bury, Lancashire, delivered the introductory discourse; the Rev. J. Cooke, of Uttoxeter, offered the designation prayer; and the Rev. James Gawthorne, of Derby, gave the charge to the pastor.

On Tuesday evening, the 5th, the church and congregation were addressed by the Rev. J. Cooke and the Rev. James Nugent, of Wellington. The other services were conducted by the Revs. T. Arnold, of Burton-on-Trent, and H. Ault, of Repton.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SEIZURE FOR INCOME-TAX.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Looking at the case of Mr. Davies, of Talywaen, one concludes that the Commissioners before whom he appeared against the charge made on him for income-tax, considered that he had other sources of income beside those which he rendered an account of. No charge could have been legally fixed on him for £138, unless the commissioners felt satisfied that he was in receipt of at least £12 more of income.

If, from any sources—though they should be a dozen, and in a dozen different places—a man receives £150 per ann., he is liable to be called on for income-tax. He may have £100 from a retail business, £20 from houses, £20 from the Funds, and £10 from a mortgage on real property. The commissioners can add the various items together and charge him on the £100 received from his retail business, though he himself directly pays nothing on the other items, the parties to whom he looks for the interest paying the tax and deducting it when they settle with him.

If Mr. Davies had really no more than £130 from all sources, then the charge was illegal—and I have no doubt that a proper application to the Commissioners of Taxes at Somerset-house would obtain the repayment of the money.

Mr. Davies did wrong when he refused payment to the collector after the charge had been confirmed on appeal. It is more than doubtful whether the costs of seizure will be repaid him.

I am, &c.,
AN ASSESSOR OF PROPERTY AND INCOME-TAX.

AN INDEPENDENT CHAPEL AND THE MINISTER'S HOUSE BURNT DOWN, IN THE GREAT FIRE AT ASHWELL, IN HERTFORDSHIRE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

MY DEAR SIR,—Most of your readers, I presume, have either read or heard of the awful fire which broke out at Ashwell, in this county, on Saturday week. The handsome Independent Chapel, and the minister's house and furniture and library, have all been destroyed by the flames. I have just received the following letter from the esteemed pastor of the Congregational church in that village, and will leave it to tell its own tale:—

"Ashwell, Feb. 8.

"MY DEAR BROTHER,—It is quite true that our chapel has been burnt down, and my residence also—together with about thirty other dwellings, of various descriptions. The amount of property destroyed is not, at present, fully known, but it is generally supposed to be near £40,000.

"You will have seen two paragraphs in the *Patriot* of Thursday (Feb. 7th), and these are substantially true. I have been so much excited and distressed that I really have had scarcely power to write about the sad affair, at present—and am so much occupied about various matters that I have but little time. I am insured for £150, which will not, by a long way, cover my loss. But I am more distressed about the loss of our beautiful chapel. It lies in total ruins! What the fire left standing, the storm on Wednesday morning demolished. How we shall get it up again I know not, as we have only £200 to begin with, beside the old bricks. But our God reigns, and has the hearts of all in his hands. To him we must look, and seek the aid of his people.

"For anything you can do to help us I shall feel greatly obliged. Great efforts are being made on behalf of the poorer sufferers, and I hope they will eventually lose nothing. Thanking you for your kind inquiries, and wishing you every blessing,

"I am, my dear brother, yours most truly,
"Rev. James Reading. "D. RICHARDSON."

This letter needs no comment. It speaks for itself. Prompt pecuniary help is wanted. Here is a deserving minister with his family and church and congregation plunged unexpectedly into distress and difficulties. Should any of your numerous readers have the power and the will to render assistance, it would afford me real pleasure to receive their contributions towards the erection of a new chapel, and the support of those who have suffered by the recent fire at Ashwell. "A friend in need is a friend indeed." "Whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?"

I am, my dear Sir, yours faithfully,

JAMES READING.

St. Alban's, February 11, 1850.

A CHAPEL-BEGGING IMPOSTOR.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Permit me to caution your readers, that the impostor mentioned in your paper as making a pretended collection in Essex for Mr. Harrison's chapel at Shadwell, has more than one tale. A few weeks ago he was at Romford, professing to collect for a congregation of Bible Christians at Shadwell.

Immediately afterwards he was in North Essex; and in one case, at least, represented that he was collecting for a chapel at Chadwell, near Romford.

In one instance, he was permitted to lecture to a respectable congregation who are without a pastor.

Yours respectfully,
JOSEPH MORISON.

Romford, February 7th, 1850.

CATHEDRAL REFORM.—We are glad to find that the subscription for the support of the Rev. Mr. Whiston in the arduous struggle in which he is engaged on behalf of Cathedral schools against the misappropriation of the funds by Deans and Chapters, is progressing favourably. It already amounts to upwards of £600.—*Kent Herald.*

THE PYE SMITH TESTIMONIAL.

In a letter to the editor of the *Patriot*, the venerable Dr. Pye Smith describes how the project of a testimonial came upon him while he was forming plans for retiring from his professional duties:—

"Looking forwards to the very proper cessation of my professional income, I was forming plans for supporting the remainder of my life by a large cessation of subscription to learned societies and the purchase of books; and by retiring into some cheap part of the country, where my private income—little more than the half annually of what Divine goodness had, through many years, bestowed upon me for my work as a tutor and a minister—might suffice.

"The declaration was, indeed, utterly unexpected and overwhelming. Well might I say, 'What hath God wrought!' Plain duty, however, to me was to be silent for the present. . . . I own the proposal as a remarkable blessing from God, and from my friends as his instruments. It will probably enable me to live near the new college, and, in any way that I can, to render it some service. Those announcements have been followed by letters in the *Patriot* and the *British Banner*, the authors of which (I trust I need not say) are unknown to me, nor can I form a probable guess of who they are. Their purport is, to request the committee to receive small contributions from ministers whose circumstances permit not larger.

"This is the fact which obliges me to ask your admission of this letter into your columns. With an affectionate and most grateful sense of the kindness of those my brethren, I must entreat them to stay their hand. I well know the class to which they probably belong—godly and faithful ministers, the most having families, their labours heavy and abundant, their trials and sufferings great, and their incomes from their congregations running at from £25 to £60 or £70 a year. Let me not have to think that a morsel of my bread came from their children's table. I beg them to spare me this pain, but equally to accept my thankful acknowledgment for their generous intentions. To have been instrumental, in any degree, of obtaining a small collateral aid for lightening their burdens, is a privilege and a joy to me; and I greatly lament my inability to meet the honourable wants, and prevent the severe disappointment, of many whose witness in on high."

"My personal enjoyment of the liberality may be very short, or may not occur at all; for, though my health is, perhaps, much better than that of most men nearly seventy-six years old (which I impute, under the Divine blessing, in a great measure, to my teetotalism), yet extreme deafness and increasing feebleness admonish me of the approaching change. I am sure that the generous originators of the proposal will forgive the freedom of this interference."

The letter concludes with what seems to us a not very judicious reference to the *Regium Donum* question, on which he published a pamphlet last summer:—"Strenuous and cleverly contrived means have been used to impede its circulation, and lead the public to think, that it contains nothing worth attention. Thus truth and right have been obstructed, and unjust error is proclaimed, as if it were the unquestionable judgment of an honest investigation. To any conscientious person, whether upon this subject adversary or friend, I submit, that thus putting it under an eclipse is not less inconsistent with Christian equity than the appliance of secret threatenings and coercions." It is really matter for regret that—even if he feels himself conscientiously right in his opinions on this subject—Dr. Smith should not, ere this, have consulted the wishes of the great bulk of his fellow-Dissenters, by declining any longer to be one of the distributors of the State pittance.

OPENING OF ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—The great music-hall, in Long-acre, projected by Mr. Hullah for the use of his singing classes and for great musical performances, was opened on Thursday evening to a large assemblage of persons. The members of Mr. Hullah's upper classes, about 400 in number, assembled in the smaller hall or class-room, and sang a number of beautiful choral pieces, under Mr. Hullah's direction, the adjoining library being filled by the ladies and gentlemen who formed the audience. The whole assemblage then adjourned to the great hall, where an elegant supper was laid out, to which the company sat down. The number present must have been above a thousand. The Earl of Carlisle was in the chair, and many persons of distinction were present. After the healths of the Queen, Prince Albert, and the Royal Family, had been given and duly honoured, the noble chairman gave, "Success to St. Martin's Hall," prefacing his toast with an eloquent address, in which he paid a tribute to the merits of Mr. Hullah, and his exertions in the cause of popular improvement, justly terming him one of the benefactors of his country. Mr. Hullah, in responding to the toast, gave an interesting account of the progress of his enterprise, the difficulties and discouragements he had encountered, and the generous assistance which had enabled him to accomplish his object. In the course of the evening, the meeting was addressed by the Bishop of London, Mr. Justice Coleridge, Mr. Page Wood, the Member for Oxford, Mr. Headlam, Mr. Helps, and other gentlemen, and the meeting broke up about midnight. The hall is lofty and well-proportioned, and capable of holding 1,600 persons, besides the performers in the orchestra.

THE EGYPTIAN CHALLENGE.—The stewards of the Jockey Club have declined the match proposed by his Highness the Pacha of Egypt.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of subscribers and friends to this association was held on Friday last, February 8th, on occasion of the opening of the society's Normal School for Female Teachers, at No. 15, Charlotte-row, Walworth. The Rev. Dr. Cox, of Hackney, was unanimously voted to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, expressed his satisfaction at the position which had been assigned to him, especially as it would exonerate him from making a speech. No speech indeed was required of him, as the meeting was self-explanatory, and was a proof of the society's progress—a progress at which he greatly rejoiced. It augured well both for the object and the success of a society, when its cause was taken up by ladies, who rarely associated together but for good purposes, which, when taken up by them, were mostly certain of accomplishment. In this instance, the end sought was the promotion of education on the voluntary principle—a principle, the efficiency of which had oft been called in question, yet a principle possessing in itself an element of immense moral power, and destined to be ultimately triumphant. On the importance of education generally, and on the necessity of teaching those who were themselves to become the teachers of others, it was needless for him to enlarge. No occupation was more honourable than that of an instructor of youth; and in teaching others, we could not fail to learn ourselves. He doubted not that in this establishment, not merely would the ordinary branches of knowledge be imparted, but also a course of sound scriptural and religious instruction. Under this conviction, he wished and anticipated for the institution the most complete success.

The SECRETARY then read several letters from friends unable to attend the meeting; amongst others, from Joseph Sturge and Edward Miall, Esqs., and the Rev. Messrs. W. Brock, J. B. Brown, D. Thomas, E. Steane, D.D., Dr. Townley, J. George, and W. Howieson.

The Rev. H. RICHARD (Hon. Sec.), said that he had been requested by the Ladies' Committee to state the present position and prospects of the association. It had been originally founded, in 1848, by those who thought that education, to be worthy of the name, must be essentially religious; and that, consequently, in no form, and under no circumstances, should aid be accepted from the State towards its promotion. The committee of this society considered that for the secular power to lay its hand upon religion, whether in the way of patronage or restraint, would be utterly at variance at once with the claims of truth and the liberty of conscience. They could not perceive the distinction between receiving money of Government to teach religion in schools, and receiving it to teach religion in churches or chapels. Further, they believed that, these great principles being admitted, the more comprehensive the basis upon which an educational society could be constituted, the better; and in the present movement were united evangelical Christians of various denominations. Since the commencement of the society, about £2,400 had been received, and about £1,230 expended, leaving a balance of about £1,170 in hand. But a large proportion of the receipts had consisted of donations; and an increase of annual subscriptions was imperatively required to meet the augmented expenditure. Although the present balance was considerable, it would soon be greatly reduced. Heavy liabilities had been incurred in furnishing the present house, and a sum of £250 had already been set apart as a grant for educational purposes in the West Indies. The committee, therefore, appealed to their friends for an increased measure of support, and did so in full expectation that that appeal would meet with a cordial response.

The Rev. JOHN BURNET then rose to move the following resolution:—

That this meeting would express its unabated attachment to the principles on which the Voluntary School Association is founded, and its sincere satisfaction at the establishment of the Female Normal School, which is to be opened this day, through the exertions of the Ladies' Committee; and would earnestly commend this institution to the increased attention and support of the friends of religious and voluntary education.

With this resolution he entirely agreed. It might be asked, Why have a separate educational society? Was not the British and Foreign School Society sufficient? Why recede from that? The answer was, that this society was but adhering to the principles from which that society had departed, when it had accepted aid from the State. The Minutes of Privy Council had occasioned a difference amongst the friends of education. There were those who objected to Government interference with it; but if they could be exempt from that, would not scruple to accept Government aid. Such was the sentiment of Dr. Lushington, and the majority of the committee of the British and Foreign School Society. But if Government give the public money, they should look after its application. The founders of this society thought that they ought not to take it. The effects of Governmental education were clearly discernible on the continent of Europe. It destroyed all self-reliance amongst the people. In France, especially, the people expected everything from the Government, and nothing from themselves. Hence their dissatisfaction with every possible system of civil polity, their frequent outbreaks, and successive revolutions. If discontented with their social position, they know no way of bettering it but by bayonets and barricades. But here, where the people were more self-relying, more intelligent, and more morally influential, they ceased to expect everything from the State, and when dissatisfied with their rulers, could bring moral agency to bear

upon their policy, or to affect their removal. Hence the formation of an intelligent public spirit, founded on moral and religious principle, was of unspeakable importance; and this must be formed independently of the State. Let Government keep to its own proper province—the preservation of the public peace and order, and not attempt to meddle with the public mind. But let Christians remember, that with the public mind they had much to do; it was for them to train the youth of this country in those principles which would fit them alike for this world, and for that which was to come, and upon them, in this respect, rested a solemn responsibility. From this transitory scene all present would soon pass away; whilst here, then, let them use every means to leave behind them a generation who should glorify God, when they should have departed to their rest.

The Rev. J. BIGWOOD seconded the resolution. It was needless for him to say much to such an assembly as the present. This institution was a proof of what had been effected by the friends of Voluntary education. He could have wished that some of these had been in the field a little earlier. Nevertheless, he rejoiced at the past, and entertained hope for the future. He rejoiced, in these days of false expediency, to see a stand made for great principles, and trusted the difficulties the members of this society might have to encounter, would but inspire them with the greater courage for the conflict.

The Rev. W. LEASK, in supporting the resolution, observed that the right and the true would, in the end, prove the most politic and successful; and dwelt upon the greater personal interest felt in any movement which was dependent upon our own voluntary and personal exertions.

The CHAIRMAN, in concluding, observed, that this subject was now attracting a large share of public attention; the cultivation of mind was felt to be increasingly important. We were all centres of influence,—not individual and isolated units. We received, that we might communicate. Whatever we were, we were for the good of those around us. He trusted that a sense of this responsibility would be impressed on all present. Dr. Cox then addressed the newly-appointed superintendent of the establishment, and the young men of the Normal-school, some of whom were present, and concluded by expressing his hope that the Divine blessing might rest upon the establishment and all connected with it.

A vote of thanks to the respected founder and treasurer of the society, G. W. Alexander, Esq. (now absent in the West Indies), and one to the Chairman, having been put and carried by acclamation, the meeting dispersed.

SANITARY REFORM.—An influential meeting was held in Freemasons' hall, on Wednesday, to promote the improvement of the sanitary condition of London. The Bishop of London presided; several noblemen, some members of Parliament, the Bishop of Chichester, and a number of clergymen, were present; Lord Ashley and Mr. Charles Dickens were among the speakers. In opening the business, the Bishop of London observed, that amidst much that is dark and discouraging in these times, there is much to cheer and animate in the sanitary cause. A sense of this duty acting on a few individuals, and afterwards pressing upon a larger body of associated persons, had at length reached the legislature; and the legislature, thus awakened, had already done much. But the provisions for improving the health of London had proved by no means sufficient; and it was in the hope of urging Government to effect stronger measures that the meeting had been convened. Lord Robert Grosvenor said that the meeting was the resuscitation of an association practically defunct, in order that the metropolis may be brought under the general law respecting sanitary measures. Suitable resolutions were passed, and a number of noblemen and gentlemen were appointed to act as officers of the "Metropolitan Sanitary Association."

COLCHESTER ELECTION.—The nomination of candidates to represent Colchester took place on Thursday. Lord John Manners was the Protectionist candidate; and Mr. George Wingrove Cooke, the barrister, was put forward by the Free-traders. The candidates made speeches; and Lord John Manners was much questioned on his vote for the Maynooth grant, and on his favour to Jesuitism. The show of hands was very largely in favour of Mr. Cooke, and a poll was demanded, which took place on Friday. The contest was conducted on both sides in a most gentlemanly spirit, and with a purity, so to speak, unexampled, we believe, in the annals of all previous party turmoils in this ancient borough. The election was more like an American than an English one. There were no bands, no banners, and no drunkenness; yet the excitement was intense. The town remained throughout the day undisturbed by any breach of the peace, and at the final close of the poll, at four o'clock, the numbers stood thus:—

For Lord John Manners 523
For Mr. G. Wingrove Cooke 402

Majority for Lord John Manners 220

The Liberal party are by no means discouraged at the result of the day. Mr. Stephen Brown, a warm supporter of the cause, has given a pledge that at the next general election Colchester shall return two Free-traders; and, on the other side, Mr. Round, a banker, has pledged himself that the borough shall return two Protectionists.

Why is a dog's tail like the heart of a tree? Because it is farthest from the bark.

LAW AND POLICE.

DR. HEWLETT AND HIS CONGREGATION.—On Wednesday, Mr. Rogers, solicitor, of Fenchurch-street, attended by Dr. Hewlett, the officiating minister of the Salem Chapel, Bow-road, waited on the sitting magistrate, Mr. Yardley, at the Thames Police-office, to request his interference under the following circumstances. Mr. Rogers stated, that in 1840 a lease of the ground on which the chapel was built was made to three parties, two of whom had emigrated, and one remained in England. This person had, without a moment's notice, seized possession of the chapel, thereby depriving the congregation of its usual place of worship, and possessing himself of property belonging to Dr. Hewlett, and amounting at least to £10. Mr. Yardley: The case is a novel one, and I do not see, considering the position of the party who has taken possession, whether I have any jurisdiction. Mr. Rogers: It is a very hard case. The people attending the chapel are deprived of their sittings, and Dr. Hewlett of his means of income. In answer to the magistrate, Mr. Rogers said that his client received the rents for the seats, but he was not in a position to show that Dr. Hewlett had possession, otherwise than by sufferance and possession. Mr. Yardley: But one of the lessees has possession now, and he has, therefore, the double claim. Dr. Hewlett: Since the place has been usurped, the locks of which I have the keys have been tampered with, and my property is in the building. Mr. Yardley: Then you can take your property. Dr. Hewlett: Is such conduct to be justified in a court of law? Mr. Yardley: This is a court of criminal jurisdiction, and, as the matter appears before me, I have no jurisdiction. The grand jury is sitting, and you can make your application there. Mr. Rogers: But the congregation will be dispersed. What would your worship advise in the matter? Mr. Yardley: I cannot give an opinion, but it strikes me your client had only possession by sufferance; the possession obtained by one of the lessees is a stronger claim. Mr. Rogers: I should have mentioned, that the ground is mortgaged, and the mortgagee is opposed to the proceeding. Mr. Yardley: In that case, you had better act in concert with the mortgagee, ascertaining what his claim is. The law, on this point, is beset with difficulties, and I do not see that I can render you any assistance. The parties then thanked his worship and withdrew.

CHURCH RATES.—In the Court of Criminal Appeal, counsel have been heard in support of the conviction in the case of an indictment for rescuing certain goods taken under a warrant of distress for non-payment of church-rates. The question sought to be raised was, whether the warrant was good, it being objected against it that it ordered the goods to be sold "forthwith," instead of allowing the usual interval of four days, wherein the owner has the power of buying out the distress. It was now contended that the warrant was good in the case of church-rates, which depend on the common law liability, and are not enforced by warrant "in consequence of an act of Parliament." The Court, however, was of opinion that the warrant was bad, a warrant for church-rates being a secular remedy adopted in lieu of the ecclesiastical one of excommunication, and it must follow the law prescribed for all warrants, and allow the interval of four days to elapse. This warrant was bad for the reason assigned; and that being so, no offence had been committed by the prisoner in rescuing goods illegally seized.

IMPORTANT JUDGMENT ON THE FACTORY ACT.—In the Court of Exchequer on Friday, Mr. Baron Parke delivered judgment in the case referred to their lordships, involving the construction of the Factory Act and the legality of "shift or relay system." On a general view of the Factory Act (7 h and 8th Victoria, chap. 15), coupled with the 10th Victoria, chap. 39, the Court were not of opinion that there is any such restriction imposed on the labour of women and young persons under 18 as to enforce their continuous work for ten hours, to be reckoned from the earliest hour at which any one of them may begin work. The act does not expressly say that they shall not leave off work at different hours, and the result is that it remains open to the owner and the workers to agree for any other less time within the limits of half-past five and half-past eight, accompanied with such intervals of leisure as may be found convenient to both parties. They were of opinion, therefore, that the conviction must be quashed.—Judgment accordingly.

SUSPECTED POISONING AT HACKNEY.—On Saturday, Mr. William Baker resumed the investigation at the Old Mermaid, Hackney, into the cause of death of Richard Merritt, aged sixty-one, whose body had been exhumed by order of the coroner, in consequence of the extraordinary disclosures made at the inquest on the body of James Merritt, a son of the deceased, whose wife, Mary Merritt, has undergone several examinations at Worship-street Police-office, on the charge of causing his death by arsenic. Several witnesses having been examined, the jury returned a verdict of "Natural death from Asiatic cholera."

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—Captain Horatio T. Austin, C.B. (says the *Morning Herald*), has accepted the command of the intended new North-west expedition by Lancaster Sound, in search of Sir John Franklin. Captain Austin was first-lieutenant of the "Fury," on Sir Edward Parry's second expedition in search of a North-west passage, which terminated in the loss of the vessel in the summer of 1825.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

THE RIOT IN THE QUARTIER ST. MARTIN, PARIS, provoked by the removal of the trees of liberty, was suppressed without much difficulty, but more than 200 persons were taken into custody. Tuesday week the populace showed a feverish uneasiness, and some slight collisions again occurred on the removal of more trees. The Government issued a notice in the morning, stating that no more would be removed if they were not made seditious centres. Several persons having defied this notice, by hanging symbols of revolution on a tree in the Rue St. Martin, the police were ordered to proceed with their work; and under the protection of the soldiery the offensive task was completed. On Wednesday, with the non-recurrence of the offensive acts the excitement abated; and it now seems to have passed away.

THE MINISTRY SUSTAINED A DEFEAT in the Assembly on Saturday evening: the project of law for transferring the Prefecture of the department of the Loire from Montbrison to St. Etienne was rejected by 335 to 260 votes. The question was one of no great importance, and many of the Conservatives who had been offended by Louis Napoleon's recent assertions of his independence, took revenge by voting against the Ministry in this instance.

THE SOUTH OF FRANCE, bordering on Switzerland, is in a very unsatisfactory state. Its capital city, Lyons, is with difficulty kept in subjection by the large body of troops who form the garrison. Numerous arrests are frequently taking place. The introduction of vast numbers of revolutionary works from Switzerland, and which are the productions of the quondam Sergeant Boichot and others, contributes greatly to unsettle the usually excitable and violently-disposed population of Lyons and the surrounding district. "Orders have just been given," says the *Courrier Français*, "to collect an army of observation on the frontier of Switzerland. It is said that General Schramm is to be charged with the command."

A VISIT OF M. LAMARTINE to the Elysée on Saturday gave rise to many surmises. It was coupled with the disaffected state of the departments east and west of the Rhone. The strongest measures, as well as the most minute, were taken to keep Lyons quiet, such as shutting up workshops.

The *Moniteur* publishes the resolution of the National Assembly of the 8th inst., declaring thirty of its members to have forfeited their rights as representatives of the people. It also publishes a decree of the President of the Republic convoking the electoral colleges by which they were returned for the 10th of March next.

M. Leontra, editor of the *Riforma*, was sentenced on Saturday, by the Court of Assize of Paris, to four months' imprisonment and a fine of 3,000 francs for a seditious article.

LAMARTINE, in the last number of his *Conseiller du Peuple* for 1849, recommends the Conservative and Progressist parties to take up all that is right in honest and rational Socialism, and so to form a true "League of the People." In the course of his explanation of what he intends, the following passage occurs, which is worthy of consideration in England as well as in France:—

Is it true that the voluntary religious sentiment, the soul of republics, is wanting to a certain degree in France? Is it true, moreover, that this sentiment, which by itself alone is worth all legislations and all governments, because it is the legislation of God and the government of conscience, develops itself in the soul of the nation in proportion as religious affairs have been less governed, less supported, less partially favoured, less protected by human hands, by the State, which profanes them by protecting them? Yes, it is true! Socialists, religious men, intelligent Conservatives, agree in proof of it; and the public cry would prove it without them. Well, then! leave the old wheel-rut of official worship, of religions, of power, of adorations, of the budget, and vote with sobriety and precaution, without degrading anything, using the present state of things as a ground-work; vote the sovereignty of free conscience, vote the universal suffrage of reason, and of voluntary piety in religious affairs, vote step by step, to the complete emancipation of both one and the other, of collective and of individual faith, catholic and philosophic, the separation of the Church and the State! Vote the system of voluntary association and contribution in matters of faith! Vote the liberty of God in the soul, because liberty leads more souls to God than the budget, and that you may prevent those wars of religion which this age may possibly see! It is hardly necessary to say that you should not vote retrospectively, nor to the ruin of the clergy, but with compensation proportioned to their loss."

THE MEDIATION IN THE AFFAIRS OF GREECE.—In the Legislative Assembly, on Friday, M. Piscatory rose to put some questions to the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the subject of the recent events in Greece. He entered into some details with respect to the claims made by England on Greece, and declared the conduct of the English Government was deplorable, when it was considered that Greece was a country that England ought to protect. General Cavaignac gave it as his opinion that, if it was really the case that England and Greece had accepted the mediation of France, it would be improper to enter upon any public discussion of the subject. He proposed the questions should not be answered. This unexpected interference by General Cavaignac in favour of the Government produced a great effect. General de Lahitte then rose, and declared that not only had England accepted the mediation of France, but that orders had been sent off to Admiral Sir William Parker, ordering him to suspend all coercive

measures against Greece. The Assembly then passed to the order of the day.

Colonel Edgar Ney (relative of the President) has been definitely elected in the Charente by 58,750 votes. His competitor, M. Bubaub Laviviere, obtained 24,000.

THE SWISS QUESTION.—The Paris papers publish a note, communicated by the French Government, in which it is stated that the expulsion of M. Mazzini from Switzerland had been decided on by the Swiss Government long ago, and that the overtures made by the Prussian and Austrian Government to that of France, with reference to the refugees in the Swiss Cantons, had no influence on that measure. It adds that the expulsion of M. Mazzini was delayed by the fact that he had concealed himself, and that there were some difficulties, which have now been overcome, with respect to his passing through France.

ITALY.

At Rome, Cernuschi, an advocate who acted a conspicuous part in the insurrection at Milan, in 1848, and who subsequently, as a deputy of the Roman Assembly, greatly stimulated the people in their defence of the Eternal City against the French, has lately been put upon his trial, for insulting the French troops on their entrance after the siege; and also, on an accusation by the Neapolitan Government of dilapidating the Farnese palace. He has been acquitted of both charges, yet it is reported that he is to quit the country.

THE ESCAPE OF DR. ACHILLI (says the Roman correspondent of the *Daily News*) has left a rankling wound in the bosom of the ecclesiastics, inasmuch that the Cardinal Vicar, baulked of one victim, has been looking out for another in the person of Mrs. Achilli, who, as Miss Hely was a Catholic, and from turning Protestant would, probably, be also subject to the inquisitorial laws—as she, however, is a British subject and daughter of a British officer, protection in her case would have been, of course, direct and powerful. She heard of her husband's flight just when, overcome by anxiety, she was on the point of leaving Florence for Rome, and she, of course, directed her course northwards instead. The Pope himself was earnestly applied to by General Baraguay, when he went to Portici, in favour of Dr. Achilli, and at first appeared inclined to mercy, but Cardinal Antonelli exclaimed that his holiness must certainly be ignorant of the extent of the prisoner's criminality, and so induced him to withhold his sovereign's pardon. I have been informed, also, that Lord Shrewsbury wrote to Prince Doria, begging him to use all his influence in preventing Dr. Achilli from undergoing any personal harsh treatment, alleging the moral injury that the Catholic cause in England would suffer by the knowledge of such proceedings in Rome. Can we be surprised if, after the escape of Dr. Achilli, the acquittal of Cernuschi (who, during his trial, gave vent to some most unmeasured expressions against the papal government, and defended himself at once from two imputations by indignantly exclaiming, "I have never been either a priest or a thief"), and the bursting open the inquisition doors with the pioneers' axes, the cardinals are tremendously exasperated against General Baraguay.

ROMANCE OF ACHILLI'S ESCAPE.—We intimated last week, that Achilli's liberation was not to be regarded as an "escape" in the ordinary sense attached to that word. We have since learned that the French authorities at Rome sent a party of soldiers to escort him from the Castle of St. Angelo, under the pretext that his evidence was required at a court-martial. On leaving the prison, he was immediately clothed in the uniform of a French soldier, and marched to Civita Vecchia, where he was put on board a war-steamship, and at once conveyed to Toulon, from which place he proceeded to Paris. It will be evident that private friendship could not have effected such an "escape" as this, and probably all the authorities concerned regarded it necessary to get out of a difficulty with as little appearance of formality as possible. On Tuesday, the 29th ult., a meeting of Christian friends was being held in Paris, at the house of the Rev. Adolph Monod, to decide on renewed and more bold efforts for the liberation of Achilli, though no one entertained very sanguine hopes of success, when, to the joy and gratitude of all, the object of their anxiety and prayer knocked at the door, and the prisoner, whose release they scarcely ventured to anticipate, stood before them, and heartily united with them in their devout thanksgivings to God! How naturally this reminds them of the incident in Acts xii. 12, 13. Dr. Achilli is still in Paris, waiting the arrival of his wife from Florence, but may be expected in England very soon.—*Watchman*.

PRUSSIA.

THE OATH OF THE KING AND THE CHAMBERS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

The work of the Constitution was completed on the 6th inst., by the ceremony of the King and the Ministers and the members of both Chambers taking the oath to it in solemn form. At 9 divine service was performed in the Cathedral; the King and Princes of the blood were present, but the Chambers did not attend officially, or in a body; they only met at the appointed hour in the Rittersaal of the Schloss, which was far too small to accommodate the number conveniently. None of the diplomatic body were present, nor any of the princesses of the royal family; only those officially directed to attend were admitted. It was remarked that neither the Prince of Prussia nor his eldest son appeared among the members of the royal family. The King proceeded, on entering the Hall, to the throne prepared for him.

The Princes having placed themselves on the right and the Ministers on the left hand, his Majesty rose, and bidding the members to be seated, said, in a tone of serious half humour, that he should avail himself of the last occasion of addressing them without being under the influence of ministerial responsibility. His Majesty then spoke as follows:—

Gentlemen,—I crave your attention. What I am going to say are my own words, for I stand before you as I never did before this, and as I never shall do after. I do not stand here to exercise the hereditary sacred duties of my office (they soar above the opinions and intentions of parties); I do not stand here covered by the responsibility of my advisers; but I stand by myself, alone, as a man of honour, prepared to give his dearest treasure, his word—a yes full of force and meaning. Let me, therefore, say a few words in explanation.

The work on which I mean to imprint my confirmation sprang from a year which the fidelity of coming generations will yearn tearfully, though vainly, to blot out of our history. In the form in which it has been submitted to you it is indeed the work of the self-sacrificing fidelity of the men who saved this throne from ruin, and to whom my gratitude shall only cease with my life; but what it is, it became in those fatal days in which the existence of our country was threatened. It sprang from a moment, and bore the broad stamp of its origin. It is but just to ask the question—How can I, with these opinions, stoop to sanction that work? And yet I will do it, because I can do it; and that I can do it I owe to you, gentlemen. You have improved it. You have purified it of dangerous parts. You have added beneficent provisions, and by your masterly legislation, and by the acceptance of my last proposition, you have given me a pledge that you mean to continue improving it, and that our joint endeavours, exerted in a constitutional manner, will avail to make it still more congruous to the characteristic vitality of Prussia. I can venture to confirm this work, because I can do it in good hope. I acknowledge this with the warmest thanks to you, and I say, with a deeply moved and joyful heart, that you have earned the gratitude of your country. And thus I declare, calling God to be my witness, that my promise to the constitution is true in verity, and void of all after-thought. But you must feel that the life and blessings of the constitution depend upon a fulfilment of some unavoidable conditions.

You, gentlemen, must help me, and the parliaments after you must help me, and the loyalty of my people must help me, against those who would pervert this royal grant of freedom into a shroud to malice: against those who would turn it against its author's God-instituted authority; against those who would fain consider this document as an indemnity in the place of Divine Providence, of history, and of our ancient sacred loyalty. All the good powers of the country must unite in fealty, in respect for royalty, and this throne, which leans upon the victories of our armies; on obedience to law, on a conscientious adherence to the oath of homage and to the new oath of fidelity, and obedience to the king, and a scrupulous observance of the constitution—in a word, a vital condition is that you give me a possibility of governing under this law; for in Prussia the King must reign, and I do not reign, God knows it, because such is my will and pleasure, but because it is God's order and decree, and, therefore, I mean to govern. A free people under a free King! such has been my motto these ten years, and such is it this day, and shall be to the end of my life.

The King, having uttered these words with much emotion, then proceeded in a more solemn tone:—

Before I proceed to the business of this day, I will renew before you two oaths, which the retrospect of ten years imposes on me at this moment.

First, I renew, repeat, and confirm solemnly and expressly the oaths, which, before God and men, I took at my coronation at Königsberg, and here. [Here the King held up the thumb and two first fingers of his right hand, "Ja! Ja!—das will Ich, so Gott mir helfe." "Yes, yes! I will, so help me God." "Ja, Ja!" is a customary part of the formula of swearing.] "Secondly, I renew, repeat, and confirm solemnly and expressly the holy oath which I took on the 11th of April, 1847, with my house to serve the Lord. Ja! Ja! I will, so help me God!"

This oath stands above all others; it must be comprehended in all others; and must stream through all others, if they have any worth, like pure living water.

The King then proceeded to take the oath to the constitution:—"But now, and while I, in virtue of royal fulness of power, hereby confirm the charter of the constitution, solemnly, truly, and expressly do I swear before God and men, to maintain firmly and inviolably the constitution of my country and kingdom, and to rule in unison therewith and with the laws.—Ja! Ja! I will, so help me God!"

And now I commend the confirmed law to the hands of Almighty God, the ministrations of whose providence is palpably to be recognised in the history of Prussia; and I pray that He may out of this work of men make an instrument of blessing for our dear fatherland, through the fulfilment thereby of his holy laws and ordinances! So be it!

This speech, listened to with profound attention, was no sooner ended than unanimous hurrahs burst from the Assembly. When these cheers had subsided, Count Brandenburg approached the steps of the throne, and having demanded if it suited the Royal pleasure to receive the list, and his Majesty having replied affirmatively, Count Brandenburg read the formula. Whereupon the King, uncovering himself, pronounced the oath with a firm voice, and raised his hand and eyes to heaven, with most cheerful fervour, as he exclaimed, "I, Frederick William, swear it—so true—God help me!" in reply to the formula A, "your Majesty swears to Almighty and Omnipotent God to observe the Constitution truly and irrevocably, and to govern in accordance with the laws," addressed to him by the President of the Council. The oath administered to Ministers, and to the members of both Chambers, was thus worded—"You swear to Almighty and Omnipotent God, that you will be faithful and obedient to the King, and that you will conscientiously observe the Constitution;" to which each minister, the two Presidents, and all members of both Chambers, answering successively to their names,

and passing to the front of the throne, replied, raising three fingers of the right hand, "I (A B) swear it—so true—God help me!" The whole having been thus attested, the Minister President addressed a few words of thanks to the King, for his Majesty's having thus accomplished the wishes of the nation. To this his Majesty briefly replied, invoking Almighty benediction upon the land and people, and then withdrew, attended by the princes, their suites and the Ministers. In a few minutes the latter returned, and Count Brandenburg declared the ceremony to be at an end. Before separating, however, a protocol of the proceedings was drawn up by the secretaries, and was signed by the Ministers and two Presidents, Count Schwerin and M. d'Auerweld. The members were then summoned by the Marshal of the Court to enter the "White Hall" and contiguous chambers, where covers were laid for upwards of 500, when all sat down to a splendid banquet, presided over by the King and princes. The banquet took place at two o'clock. At its conclusion, the King proposed a toast, which was received with great enthusiasm and much admired for its epigrammatic terseness:—(*das dankbare Volk, seinen Vertretern, durch den Mund seines Königs*) "The grateful people to its representatives by the mouth of its King." Immense crowds assembled outside the palace, but evinced no symptoms of approbation or disapprobation. Some of the public buildings were illuminated, but, with the exception of some three or four private houses being lighted up, the remainder of the town was in its usual darkness. No salute was fired—counter orders having been issued, in consequence. The Polish deputies did not take the oath; ten of them resigned their seats in the Second Chamber yesterday rather than attend the proceedings. They object to the Constitution, that it does not recognise the nationality of Poland, nor the rights of the Duchy of Posen.

The trial of the 42 members of the National Assembly, who published the celebrated refusal of the taxes, commenced on the 4th inst. Only 36 of the accused were present, the other six not having been arrested. On the first day of the trial nothing further took place than the swearing in of the jury and the reading of the indictment. The prisoners all pleaded "Not guilty."

DENMARK.

The King of Denmark, in opening the session of the States on the 30th ult., alluded to the late war in Schleswig Holstein as "only suspended," and added that Denmark could well continue to support the extraordinary charges incident to the present state of affairs. In the negotiations for pacification, now conducted at Berlin, there appears to be great need of a sincere desire on the part of Prussia to terminate the present unpleasant state of affairs.

SWITZERLAND.

It is stated that in consequence of the threats of Prussia and Austria to march into Switzerland, in the event of the political refugees not being expelled, and the strong remonstrances made by the French Government, M. Mazzini and the other Italian refugees have asked leave to pass through France on their way to England, and that the principal French refugees will withdraw from Switzerland either through Germany or France.

GREECE.

OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.—The Greek Minister in Paris has published copies of some of the official communications between his Government and Sir Thomas Wyse, on the existing differences. The points of interest lie in the complication with third parties. A letter by M. Thouvenel, the French Minister, to the English Minister, dated 19th January, suggests that Sir Thomas Wyse should consider the reference of Greece to the arbitration of Russia and France as authorizing him to suspend the coercive measures threatened till he should have an answer from his Government. A letter by M. Lodos to the Ministers of Russia and Greece, dated the 21st January, reports the "seizure of the vessels of the Arsenal," the prohibition laid upon trading vessels to land cargoes anywhere but on the coast opposite the Customhouse, and the prohibition to "every vessel even of commerce to enter the Piræus or go out." He requests that the ships of Russia and France may be ordered "to afford, if necessary, support and co-operation to the Greek authorities, either for what concerns the safety of the state or for the satisfaction of the urgent necessities of the administration and public service." The answer to this is not among the documents.

Accounts from Athens to the 23rd ult. state, that on that day there had been some questions put to the Ministers of King Otho, in the Chambers, in regard to the demands advanced by the representative of Great Britain, backed by the presence of the British fleet at Salamis and the Piræus; to which questions somewhat evasive answers had been given, with a promise of more satisfactory ones when the proper time arrived; and an assurance that the differences would be settled "as became the honour and credit of Greece." Meanwhile, at the expiration of the peremptory term prefixed by the British Minister for a settlement of the claims, Sir William Parker had proceeded to hostile acts; the "Bulldog" was sent in quest of the "Otho" (Greek war steamer), which she detained and carried into Salamis, placing her under the surveillance of a British liner's broadside. The "Dragon," with the "Bulldog," were next despatched in quest of the "Ludovico" corvette, which will, no doubt, be in like manner secured. The islets which Great Britain pretends, on behalf of the Ionian Government, are under her protection, have also, it is supposed, been before this garrisoned by British marines, though

merely inhabited by some half-dozen fishermen and goat-herds. Much excitement prevails at Athens; and at Patras the feeling of the people is openly expressed against Great Britain.

TURKEY.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 15.—The presence of Russian troops in the Danubian Principalities is a subject of constant uneasiness to the Porte. There are at present from 35,000 to 36,000 of the Czar's soldiers in Wallachia and Moldavia. The Ministers of the Sublime Porte have remonstrated strongly against this seeming intention on the part of the Emperor Nicholas to continue to occupy with his troops the Danubian Principalities. Information has reached here that military levies on a very extensive scale are at present being made in Russia, and there are many other signs of a like nature which very properly excite the Turks to a suspicious watchfulness of the proceedings of the Czar in relation to the Ottoman Empire. The military power of Russia may have been exaggerated of late, but her influence in Turkey has most certainly been never overrated. Three days ago was the 1st of January according to the old style. On that day the gates of the Russian Embassy were thrown open, and not a Greek of any note in Constantinople but repaired thither to pay his respects to M. de Titoff. In every Greek church in the capital public prayers were offered up for the Emperor Nicholas as chief of the orthodox church. The Greek population of Constantinople far exceeds that of the Mussulmans. On their New Year's-day one might have formed some idea of their numbers, for they so thronged the principal streets of Stamboul and Pera as to render them almost impassable.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

THE RESEARCHES IN THE RUINS OF NINEVEH.—Letters from Nimroud, of November 25th, inform us of the progress of Dr. Layard's researches. A wall of admirably united large square blocks of limestone, without cement, has been discovered in the pyramid of Nimroud; but as yet it has been impossible to ascertain what is beyond it. It may probably be a chamber or a tomb; or it may only be one side of a square mass supporting the pyramid of unbaked bricks. What if it should turn out to be the true *busta Nini*? In the entrance of a gateway to the quadrangle opposite Mosul, Dr. Layard has reached a pair of enormous winged figures, which appear to be entire, but have been cracked and injured by fire. A plan of this entrance would be interesting, as illustrative of the architecture of the city. At Kouyunjik, a pair of gigantic bulls, back to back, separated by an enormous figure strangling a lion, like that at Paris, but still larger, have been discovered; but the upper parts of all have been destroyed. On the bulls are interesting inscriptions. We are glad to hear that the colossal lions at Nimroud were nearly ready for removal. It was expected that they would be on their road to England early in December. Dr. Layard has a party of men excavating at Baashickhah, and in a mound near Khorsabad.—*Athenæum*.

TIGRE ISLAND IN THE PACIFIC.—On the 16th of last October her Majesty's steam-sloop "Gorgon," Commander Paynter, took possession of Tigre Island in the name of the Queen, in consequence of the Honduras Government refusing to pay their just debts, and returned to the commander-in-chief on the station, leaving a party of forty-six officers and men on the island. Rear-Admiral Hornby, however, having disapproved of the steps taken by the commander, despatched the "Gorgon" from Callao on the 14th of December last to Migra Island, to embark the party, and to surrender the island.—*Hants Telegraph*.

INUNDATIONS IN NORTH GERMANY.—The papers from the north of Germany are filled with accounts of the devastations caused by the inundations in the Rhenish provinces, in Belgium and in Holland. The damage done at Liege is immense, and the churches there are full of water. At Cologne the water was five and six feet deep in some of the streets; and the bridge at Emmerich had been swept away. In many parts of France the waters are out, but no particular damage has yet been recorded.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA.—There has been issued (presented to Parliament) a copy of the treaty of friendship and commerce between her Majesty and the republic of Liberia. It was signed at London in November 1848, and ratified on the 1st of August last. There are 11 articles in the treaty. "There shall be perpetual peace and friendship between her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, her heirs and successors, and the republic of Liberia, and between their respective subjects and citizens." There is to be reciprocal freedom of commerce. No tonnage, import, or other duties are to be levied beyond what are or may be levied on national vessels. British merchandise or goods are not to be prohibited. The government of the republic may import certain articles with the view of raising a revenue, and in such case private merchants are to be prohibited trading in such articles. By the ninth article, it is declared that "slavery and the slave-trade being perpetually abolished in the republic of Liberia, the republic engages that a law shall be passed declaring it to be piracy for any Liberian citizen or vessel to be engaged or concerned in the slave-trade." Free access to be given in case of suspected slavers. The treaty was signed by Lord Palmerston, the Hon. H. Labouchere, and Joseph Jenkins Roberts, the president of the republic.—*Times*.

A letter from Geneva states that a man named Visetti had been arrested for endeavouring to hire a person to assassinate Mazzini.

The private letters from New York express, rather confidently, a belief that there will not be any increase in the tariff for the protection of any interest by the present Congress.

THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA.—We have the best authority for stating that there is a perfect friendly understanding existing between the Government of this country and that of the United States, that the railroad and ship canal to be constructed across the Isthmus of Panama are to be open to all the world, in peace or war, and that France and Russia signify their desire of being parties to this arrangement.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

A New York letter mentions a rumour that a "new kingdom is to be created in Brazil, of which the Prince de Joinville is to be the Emperor."

In the month of December, 15,000 persons were still imprisoned in Austria for political offences.

DEPUTATIONS TO GOVERNMENT.

THE ADVERTISEMENT DUTY.—Mr. Ewart, M.P., Mr. Borthwick, Mr. Ingram, Mr. Spicer, Mr. Francis, Mr. Pratt, Mr. M'Enteer, Mr. Pittman, and several other gentlemen, representing a large and influential portion of the London and provincial press, had an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Wednesday last, on the subject of the repeal of the advertisement duty.—*Court Circular*.—From a less official source—viz., the London correspondent of the *Bristol Examiner*—we extract the following gossip relative to this interview:—"Sir Charles, of course, took care to promise no more than his best consideration; but Mr. Ewart, who headed the deputation, considered that no unfavourable augury was to be drawn from what occurred during the interview. One of the gentlemen threw out a suggestion at which the Chancellor, it was thought, betrayed, notwithstanding all his official caution and reserve, some disposition to catch; viz., that the repeal of the duty will be found a considerable boon to the farmers, who might then, at little expense, advertise their stock for sale, without the trouble, cost, and loss, of driving the cattle and sheep to market, and perhaps back again. You can easily conceive, that it might strike the Minister as a capital sop wherewith to silence the howls of agricultural distress. There is the more feasibility in this suggestion, forasmuch as Mr. Peter Borthwick, who represents the *Post*, is able to set in motion the whole herd of Protectionists through the Carlton Club. Sir Charles admitted frankly, that it was not fair that a duty should be levied upon newspaper and magazine advertisements while placards, advertising vans, and the whole system of street advertising, went scot free, and he observed that he had frequently been urged to apply the same rule to all; but we may rely upon it, that the only way in which he will deal with all on an equal footing, will be by leaving all perfectly free."

EQUALIZATION OF THE LAND-TAX.—On Wednesday, at one o'clock, a deputation of gentlemen, comprising delegates from several metropolitan parishes, nominated for the purpose of obtaining an equalization of the land-tax, waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer, by appointment, at his official residence in Downing-street, with the view of urging upon the consideration of the Government a more equitable arrangement of the above impost. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that as to the general equalization of the land-tax, that was too large a question for him to express an opinion upon, particularly after the manner in which the tax had been dealt with at the time the Redemption Acts were passed, Mr. Pitt having the quotas then fixed as perpetual, because the Government wanted money for war purposes.

HENRY VINCENT AT PETERBOROUGH.—Mr. Vincent has at length made an effective attack upon this ecclesiastical city. Three lectures were announced for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in last week, on the Liberal Tendencies of the Age—the Moral and Intellectual Elevation of the People; but such was the excitement and interest created—all classes flocking to the meetings—that two more meetings were announced for Thursday and Friday evenings, in the Corn Exchange, on Parliamentary and Financial Reform, and on the Peace Question, which were densely crowded. The principles defended and earnestly diffused by Mr. Vincent were received with the heartiest applause. Peterborough has never been more thoroughly roused; and the pleasing feature of the meetings was this—that Churchmen vied with Dissenters, and Tories with Reformers, in their earnest appreciation of the principles advanced. At the close, the thanks of the meeting was voted to Mr. Vincent, with three cheers. A Parliamentary and Financial Reform Association will be formed in the city.

NARROW ESCAPE OF MR. G. THOMPSON, M.P.—The hon. member for the Tower Hamlets experienced a narrow escape from fire, at Coventry, on Tuesday morning week. He had been lecturing in the town on the previous evening, and on retiring to his apartment in the Craven Arms Hotel for the night, put the candle by his bedside for the purpose of reading; he soon fell asleep, and on awaking, found himself enveloped in flames. Sir Joshua Walsley, M.P., who slept in the adjoining room, hearing a disturbance, hastily rushed out on the landing, and, to his horror, discovered flames issuing from the room occupied by Mr. Thompson. The hon. gentleman, however, escaped without injury, and addressed a public meeting at Leicester on the same evening.

FACTS FOR SOCIAL REFORMERS.

THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICTS (continued).

The condition of the tailors of the metropolis was next investigated. The trade was found to be divided into two sections—the honourable and dishonourable; the masters connected with the former paying reasonable prices, and having generally their work done upon their own premises—the latter, giving it out to middlemen termed "sweaters," by whom the low prices given by the first employer are still further reduced; or, if given out from the shop, securities required, miserable wages paid, and heavy fines exacted on the most frivolous pretences. Besides making many personal inquiries among the latter class—which sometimes disclosed most loathsome facts: men and their families working in filthy garrets, or laying on a heap of straw, diseased and dying, covered up with clothes half-made, sometimes with ladies' riding habits—the correspondent called meetings of the trade at the East and West of London, at both of which intelligence, candour, and good feeling were highly conspicuous, but the following lamentable facts were ascertained:—

Of the 21,000 journeymen tailors at work in the metropolis there were, in the year 1844, 3,697 employed on the premises of the masters in the "honourable" trade at the West-end of London, and 2,384 working out of doors at the "dishonourable" show and sloop trade. Hence there were 6,081 journeymen tailors engaged at the West-end, and about 15,000 employed at the East-end of the metropolis. In the East there are upwards of 80 sloop and show shops, many employing from 200 to 300 hands. There were in 1844 only 72 masters in the West who had all the work made on their premises; besides these, there were 270 masters who had only part of their work made in-doors, and 112 who had none at all done at home. Hence the West-end branch of the business consisted principally of 454 masters, of whom less than one-sixth belonged to what is called the "honourable" part of the trade. Since then, I am assured by one who has long made the business his peculiar study, that the 72 honourable masters have declined at least to 60, while the 172 dishonourable ones have been more than doubled. The men employed in-doors have decreased from 3,600 to less than 3,000, and those employed out of doors have increased from 2,300 to more than 4,000. Hence the honourable part of the trade is declining at the rate of 150 men per year; so that in 20 years at least the whole business will have merged in the show and sloop shops; and the wages of the men have fallen from 18s. a week—which I find is the average of the honourable part of the trade—to 11s., the average of the sloop trade.

The aggregate earnings of the 3,000 men now employed at the honourable part of the trade are £2,700 a week, or £140,400 a-year, and the earnings of the 18,000 men working at the show and sloop trade £9,900 a-week, or £514,800 a-year. Hence, as a body, the wages of the metropolitan tailors amount to £655,200 a-year. But, according to the rate of decrease before mentioned, in twenty years the honourable part of the trade will have entirely disappeared, and the wages of the whole 21,000 journeymen will have declined to 11s. According to this estimate the workmen generally will, at the expiration of that time, suffer an annual loss of £54,600; that is, they will receive upwards of £50,000 less for their year's work than they do now. By the same calculation I find that they are collectively receiving every year £3,000 less wages than they did the year before.

The number of individuals, it is added, who make a practice of working on the Sunday is considerably on the increase. "The better class of artisans denounce the system of Sunday working as the most iniquitous of all the impositions on the honourable part of the trade. They object to it, not only on moral and religious grounds, but economically also. 'Every 600 men employed on the Sabbath,' they say, 'deprive 100 individuals of a week's work; every six men who labour seven days in the week must necessarily throw one other man out of employ for a whole week. The seventh man is deprived of his fair share of work by the overtoiling of the other six.' This Sunday working, I am told, is a necessary consequence of the cheap sloop trade. The workmen cannot keep their families by their six days' labour; and therefore they not only, under the system, get less wages and do more work, but by their extra labour they throw so many more hands out of employ."

Passing from the artisan to the labourer, the correspondent makes this remarkable and valuable statement:—

The artisans are almost to a man red-hot politicians. They are sufficiently educated and thoughtful to have a sense of their importance in the State. It is true they may entertain exaggerated notions of their natural rank and position in the social scale, but at least they have read and reflected, and argued upon the subject, and their opinions are entitled to consideration. The political character and sentiments of the working classes appear to me to be a distinctive feature of the age, and they are a necessary consequence of the dawning intelligence of the mass. As their minds expand they are naturally led to take a more enlarged view of their calling, and to contemplate their labours in relation to the whole framework of society. They begin to view their class not as a mere isolated body of workmen, but as an integral portion of the nation, contributing their quota to the general welfare. If PROPERTY has its duties as well as its rights, LABOUR, on the other hand, they say, has its rights as well as its duties. The artisans of London seem to be generally well informed upon these subjects. That they express their opinions violently, and often savagely, it is my duty to acknowledge; but that they are the unenlightened and unthinking body of people that they are generally considered by those who never go among them, and who see them only as "the dangerous classes," it is my duty, also, to deny. So far as my experience has gone, I am bound to confess that I have found the skilled labourers of the metropolis the very reverse, both morally and intellectually, of what the popular prejudice imagines them.

The unskilled labourers are a different class of people.

As yet they are as unpolitical as footmen. Instead of entertaining violently democratic opinions, they appear to have no political opinions whatever; or, if they do possess any, they rather lean towards the maintenance "of things as they are," than towards the ascendancy of the working people. I have lately been investigating the state of the coal-whippers, and these reflections are forced upon me by the marked difference in the character and sentiments of the people from those of the operative tailors. Among the latter class there appeared to be a general bias towards the six points of the Charter; but the former were extremely proud of their having turned out to a man on the 10th of April, 1848, and become special constables for the maintenance of "law and order" on the day of the great Chartist "demonstration." As to which of these classes are the better members of the State, it is not for me to offer an opinion. I merely assert a social fact. The artisans of the metropolis are intelligent and dissatisfied with their political position; the labourers of London appear to be the reverse; and, in passing from one class to the other, the change is so curious and striking, that the phenomenon deserves at least to be recorded in this place.

The labourers, or unskilled workmen, rank second in the occupation-list of the metropolis, numbering about 50,000, while domestic servants are as many as 168,000. According to the criminal returns, the labourers of London are "nine times as dishonest, five times as drunken, and nine times as savage as the rest of the community"—so often do they figure in the police-sheet, charged with larceny, drunkenness, and assaults; while, for pauperism, they are below the general average. Upwards of 4,000 labourers are engaged in the coal trade—chiefly at Limehouse and Shadwell. Previous to the passing of an act of Parliament in 1843, they were employed and paid by the publicans along-shore, who were either themselves ship-owners, or the relatives of those who were; and without spending the greater proportion of his earnings in drink, no man could get employment. Now, however, they have a register-office, and are under the jurisdiction of Government Commissioners—a change which has considerably improved their condition, and which they fully appreciate. Their wages, however, appear to be declining, and insufficient for their comfortable maintenance, considering the quantity of food they must consume to sustain their strength. The correspondent took great pains to ascertain their opinions on teetotalism, and found, that while the majority thought it impossible to do without beer, though deprecating drinking to excess, some of them were enthusiastic in their attachment to total abstinence, and boasted of their ability to equal any beer-drinkers at hard work—altogether, their testimony in favour of the system, both as to its physical and social influences, was not only conclusive, but triumphant.

The other classes of 'longshore labourers—ballast-heavers, lightermen, lumpers (timber-porters)—were found to be in a much worse condition, from causes precisely similar to those from which the coal-whippers formerly suffered. The ballast-getters, being in the direct employ of the Trinity Corporation, whether machine or manual workers, are comparatively comfortable, though generally ignorant; but those who heave the ballast from lighters into the ship's hold, appear to combine the heaviest labour conceivable with extreme degradation and misery. Somewhat too numerous, perhaps, for the wants of the trade, their wretchedness is almost entirely attributable to the fact that they are compelled to get employment through contractors—publicans, grocers, and butchers, who oblige them to spend half their meagre earnings on beastly liquor, filthy lodgings, and inferior high-priced food, beside making serious deductions on various pretexts. There is no exaggeration in their own declaration, that they are virtually the slaves of these contractors. Here is a statement which, apart from the painful details that fill page after page of the *Chronicle*, exposes the method in which labour is assisted by rude mechanism only to be defrauded by a petty capitalist:—

There's the basket-men at the docks—all the docks. They're as bad to a poor man as the publican, or worse. The way they do it is this. They're not in any trade, and they make it their business to go on board ships, foreign ships, Americans generally. In better times, 20 or 25 years ago, there used to be 1s. and as high as 1s. 6d. paid for a ton, from such ships, to a gang of six ballast-men. I've earned 6s., 7s., and 8s. a day, myself then. We heaved the ballast out of the lighters with our shovels on to a stage, and from that it was heaved into the hold. Two men worked in the lighter, two on the stage, and two in the hold of the vessel. The basket-men manage to fill the hold now by heaving the ballast up from the lighter in baskets, by means of a windlass. The basket-man contracts with the captain, and then puts us poor men at the lowest rate he can get; he picks them up anywhere, anything in the shape of men. For every half-crown he pays these men, he'll get 9s. for himself and more. An American liner may want 300 tons of ballast, and may-be a captain will give a basket-man 8d. a ton, that would be £10. The basket-man employs six men, and he makes another. He never works himself—never, not a blow; but he goes swaggering about the ship when his men are at work, and he's on the look-out in the streets at other times. For the £10 he'll get for the 300 tons, he'll pay his men each 2s. 6d. for 60 tons, that's £3 15s., and so there's £6 5s. profit for him. Isn't that a shame, when so many poor men have to go without dinner or breakfast? There's five basket-men to my knowledge. They are making money, all out of poor men that can't help themselves. The poor suffers for all.

There is an illustration of the necessity for a new "organization of labour," which we leave to the political economist: here is a more direct appeal to our humanity—a picture of the social effects of the present system:—

To ascertain that there was no provident fund, no provision whatever for sickness, I investigated the case of a

man who, in consequence of illness, occasioned by his trade, was afflicted with a pulmonary complaint. This man was formerly one of the wine-cellarmen in the London Docks; he was then made a "permanent man" at the St. Katharine Dock, and was dismissed for having taken a lighted pipe in while at his work; and for the last fourteen years and upwards he has been a ballast-heaver. I now give his wife's statement:—"My husband has been ill for three months, and has been six weeks in Guy's Hospital, and I'm afraid he'll never get out again, for he kept up as long as he could, for the sake of the children. We have five at home, one of whom (twelve years old) I hope to get to sea, having two elder sons at sea, and being the mother of twelve children altogether. I will tell you what led to my poor husband's illness; he was a kind husband to me. I consider it was his hard work that made him ill, and his not getting his rights—not his money, when entitled to it. After doing a heavy day's work he had to go and sit in a cold tap-room, drinking bad beer; but it wasn't beer—muck I call it; and he had to wait to be paid, aye, and might have to wait till the day after, and then come home cold, and have to go to bed without a bit of victuals. His illness is owing to that. No horse could stand it long. Ballast-men are worse than slaves in the West Indies. When at work, he earned what the others did. He only drank what he couldn't help—the worst of stuff. No drink, no work. Six weeks ago he went to the hospital, I conveying him. When I returned home, I found three strange men had turned my four children into the street, doing it in a brutal way. I rushed into the house, and one said, 'Who are you?' I seized the fellow who said this by the handkerchief, and put him out. One of them said, 'Be off, you old Irish hag; you have no business here—we have possession.' When I saw the children in the street, passion made me strong, and so I put him out. The collector of the rent, who employed the broker, is a publican, for whom my husband worked as a ballast heaver until he was unable to work from illness. I was given into custody for an assault, and taken before Mr. Yardley. He considered the assault proved; and, as an honest woman, I couldn't deny it, and so I had fourteen days with bread and water. The children were placed in the workhouse, where they were well treated. I was very glad they were so taken care of. As soon as I got out I went to see about my children—that was the first thing I did. I couldn't rest till I did that. I brought them home with me, though it was only to bread and water; but I was with them. I only owed about 15s. rent, and had been four years in the house at the time the publican put the broker in. We paid 6s. 6d. a week. It was no use asking such a man as that for any mercy. He was in the habit of employing ballast-heavers for many years, and if that doesn't harden a man's heart nothing will. In general, these ballast publicans are cruel and greedy. At present, I go out washing, or charring, or doing anything I can, to maintain my children; but work's very slack. I've had a day and a half this fortnight, earning 2s. 6d.—that's all for a fortnight. The parish allows me four loaves of bread a week. The children, all boys, just get what keeps a little life in them. They have no bed at night, and are starved almost to death, poor things! I blame the system under which my husband had to work—his money going in drink—for leaving me destitute to the world. On Christmas-day we lived on a bit of workhouse bread—nothing else—and had no fire to eat it by. But for the money gone in drink, we might have had a decent home, and wouldn't so soon have come to this killing poverty. I have been tenderly reared, and never thought I should have come to this. May God grant the system may be done away with, for poor people's sake."

A meeting of women, the wives of 'longshore labourers, was held one afternoon, and in the evening of the men themselves, at which 1,600 attended. At both, the statements given in and averages made out, corresponded accurately with what the correspondent had ascertained in more private interviews. The women unanimously testified that their husbands were well-behaved and well-disposed men, except when under the influence of drink, and complained bitterly that the contractors intercepted their earnings, leaving their families literally to want. The men were not less unanimous in their evidence as to the causes of their wretchedness, and expressed a great desire for the establishment of a central office, in which they might enrol themselves, similar to that which had been found so beneficial to the coal-whippers. They declared that for a teetotaler to get work was quite impossible, as several of them had tried it—that they would rather drink even Thames water than the poisonous stuff which the publican compelled them to pay for—and that earning on the average 11s. a week each, they could not to carry home 5s. A committee of workmen was formed, at the meeting alluded to, to co-operate with gentlemen whose attention had been called to their condition, in the attempt to break their intolerable bondage.

We subjoin a statement which is at once appropriate at this stage of our inquiry, and of permanent interest and importance:—

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF DRUNKENNESS OF THE DIFFERENT TRADES IN LONDON.

ABOVE THE AVERAGE.	
Buttonmakers, one individual in every	7-2
Masons	49-3
Toolmakers	10-1
Glassmakers, &c.	50-5
Surveyors	11-8
Curriers	50-6
Papermakers & stainers	12-1
Printers, one individual in every	52-4
Brass-founders	12-4
Hatters and trimmers	53-1
Goldbeaters	14-5
Corperenters	53-8
Millers	16-6
Carpenters	56-0
French polishers	17-3
Ir nmongers	56-7
Cutlers	18-2
Dyers	56-7
Car-kutters	19-7
Sawyers	58-4
Musicians	22-0
Turners	59-3
Opticians	22-3
Engineers	59-7
Bricklayers	22-6
Butchers	63-7
Labourers	22-8
Laundresses	63-8
General and marine store dealers	23-2
Painters	66-1
Brokers	67-7
Brushmakers	23-4
M-dical men	68-0
Fishmongers	28-2
Brewers	70-2
Coach and cabmen	28-7
Clerks	73-4
Glovers	29-4
Shopekeepers	77-1
Smiths	29-5
Sho-makers	78-0
Sweepers	32-2
Coachmakers	78-8
Hairdressers	42-3
Milliners	81-4
Tailors	43-7
Bakers	83-0
Tinkers and timmen	45-7
Pawnbrokers	84-7

Gardeners	97-6	Jewellers	104-5
Weavers	99-3	Artists	108-3
Drapers	103-3	Publicans	109-0
Tobaccoists	103-4		
Average	113-6		

BELOW THE AVERAGE.

Carvers and gilders	126-9	Grocers	226-6
Artificial flower-makers	128-1	Clock-makers	266-0
Bookbinders	148-6	Parish officers	373-0
Green-grocers	157-4	Clergymen	417-0
Watchmakers	204-3	Servants	585-7

It may be added, that drunkenness in the metropolis is happily much on the decrease. In the year 1831, one in every 48 individuals was drunk; in 1832 the number increased to one in 46—whereas in 1833 it decreased to one in 50, and in 1848 the average had again fallen to one individual in every 110. This decrease of intemperance was attended with a similar decrease in the number of metropolitan beer-shops. In 1833 there were 1,182, and in 1848 only 779 beer-shops in London. Whether this decrease proceeded or succeeded—and so was the cause or the consequence—of the increased sobriety of the people, it is difficult to say. The number of public-houses in London, however, during the same period had increased from 4,073 to 4,235. Upon the cause and effect of these social and moral phenomena, we cannot now speculate: it is our business, at present, only to state facts.

IRELAND.

REPRESENTATION OF SLIGO.—The resignation of Mr. Pfolliott being no longer a matter of doubt, Sir Robert Gore Booth has already issued his address to the electors, and of his success there is scarcely a rational doubt.

LETTING OF FARMS IN THE WEST.—Whilst the Protectionists are asseverating that land has become utterly valueless in Ireland, the farmers in all directions are most actively employed in preparing for spring crops, when the state of the weather permits field labour; and, even in the western provinces, there is a steady demand for farms that have been unoccupied and neglected during the famine.

THE TENANT PROTECTION SOCIETIES are extending in the south and the north. On Sunday week, the great meeting of the Ballingarry Tenant Protection Society came off, and was fully equal to the anticipations formed of it. The attendance is described as having been very great, and as not having been by any means exclusively composed of the labouring classes. A Tenant Protection Society was established last week at Castlecomer, where a large and respectably-attended meeting was held. The *Kilkenny Journal*, after enumerating the names of several persons who were present, says:—"Amongst these we recognise some of the largest landholders in this neighbourhood; and they appeared to be the most enthusiastic in calling for the institution of a Tenant Protection Society." Fifty members were enrolled on this occasion, and it was expected that all the farmers in the locality would have their names inscribed on the records of the society. The organization is extending itself throughout the north and south of Ireland.

INCOME AND PROPERTY TAX.—It may not be generally known, that by the income tax act, 5 & 6 Viet., every parish or township is liable to make good any loss occasioned to the revenue by the default or failure of the collector to pay over the monies he has received. An instance of this kind has just occurred at Maryport, where a supplementary assessment has been made, levied, and collected upon the inhabitants, in consequence of the collector having misappropriated some of the monies received by him.—*Leeds Mercury*.

THE PRICE OF A "MEMBER OF THE CHURCH."—There is at present in New York a young man who, by dint of hard labour, has purchased his own freedom at the cost of 53 dollars, 30c., and that of his mother at 50 dollars. He now appeals to the liberality and humanity of the people of the North, to assist him in securing "a young and beautiful sister" from the New Orleans market, and save her from what may yet be, if she is not rescued, a condition worse than death. Amos Wade, "her proprietor," writes that "she is a good girl, and I believe a virtuous girl. She is a member of a church, and is respected by the members of her church as a Christian. I have been offered 1,000 dollars for her by traders, but if your object is to free her, I will reduce the price to 600 dollars."

The notorious American fanatic, generally known as "Father Miller," who predicted the destruction of the world and the second coming of Christ in the year 1843, and formed a sect of some 40,000 disciples, died on the 20th of December, aged 68.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, Feb. 13, Two o'clock.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

In the House of Lords last night, on the motion of Lord MONTAGUE, the County Cess (Ireland) Bill was read a second time, and ordered for committal on Thursday.

In answer to some observations from Lord STANLEY relating to the recent convict controversy at the Cape, Earl GREY observed that the order in council, which had now been revoked, was never intended as the foundation of a system. The Government had no intention of transmitting convicts to any colony which had not expressed its willingness to receive them. But there were special circumstances of dif-

ficulty attending the disposal of the Irish *detenus* in Bermuda, who were very different from the ordinary class of convicts, and for whom it was thought no unfairness towards the inhabitants of the Cape to provide an asylum in the colony. Lord BROUGHAM thought the conduct of the colonists most cruel and unjustifiable in not allowing the unfortunate convicts to land, after they had experienced the sufferings of a three months' voyage. Lord STANLEY intimated his opinion that the colonists had gone much too far in their opposition to this order. He certainly would not vindicate their conduct. After some further discussion, the matter dropped.

Some other business was then despatched, and their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Agricultural Distress, for relief of, 1.
Church Rates, for amendment of, 1.
Revenues, for better distribution of, 1.
County Expenditure, for local boards, 20.
Elective Franchise, for extension of, 1.
Marriage Bill, against, 1.
Taxes on Knowledge, for repeal of, 5.
Post Office, for abolition of Sunday labour in, 100.
Slave-Trade, for suppression of, 2.

BILL READ A SECOND TIME.

Process and Practices (Ireland) Bill.

In the House of Commons, Mr. HUME presented several petitions relating to Church government, including one for the better distribution of ecclesiastical revenues so as to afford more adequate incomes to poor curates.

Mr. MILNER GIBSON postponed to the 26th inst. his motion for the repeal of the newspaper stamp and advertisement duties, and the excise on paper.

Mr. TAYLOR deferred his motion respecting church-rates to Thursday, Feb. 21, and Mr. HURR his motion respecting the slave-trade from Thursday, Feb. 14, to an early day.

Viscount DUNDON gave notice that he should move for the repeal of the window-tax on the 26th inst.

Mr. W. J. FOX gave notice of a motion for a committee of inquiry into the state of education in England and Wales, and "the means of rendering it efficient and national." Mr. HENRY DRUMMOND also gave notice that he should move, on the 26th inst., "That whereas the present taxation of the country depresses all classes, and especially the labouring classes, by diminishing the funds for the employment of productive labour, it is the opinion of this House that adequate means should be forthwith adopted to reduce the expenditure of the Government."

Sir W. MOLESWORTH, approving of the principles recently announced by the Government for the colonial policy, regretted that in practice those principles had been so inadequately carried out. The hon. member then briefly gave notice of his intention to move several amendments when the bill now before the House came on for debate, tending to enlarge the popular element in the proposed colonial institutions, and limit the authority of the Colonial Office.

THE SPECIAL JURY SYSTEM IN IRELAND.—Mr. SADLER called attention, and moved for inquiry into, certain facts connected with the special jury system of Ireland. The speech and motion of the hon. member were introduced *apropos* of the circumstances attending the case of Callanan v. Cameron, to be tried at the Tipperary sessions. Mr. SCULLY spoke in support of the motion, Mr. NAPIER against it, and Mr. W. FAGAN appeared to take a middle course. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL protested against such questions as this being entertained by the House, unless some direct and specific charge of improper conduct was preferred against a public officer, who, in this case, had a discretion which he was bound to exercise for the benefit of his client. If the system was defective, let a general measure be introduced for the reformation of the law; but this House should not sit as a court of appeal. After a few observations from Mr. HUME, Mr. SADLER, in so thin a House, declined to press his motion to a division, and it was accordingly withdrawn by him, after an animated reply.

THE COURT OF CHANCERY.—On the second reading of the Court of Chancery (Ireland) Bill, Mr. TURNER judged that the scheme of remedy proposed in the bill would but increase the evils of delay and expense, and the Chancery proceedings which it was designed to cure. He had a bill in preparation for the reform of the English Chancery, which was far superior in its mechanism. To prove this position, the hon. member dissected at some length the various clauses of the Government measure, which he pronounced a disgrace to legislation. Sir J. ROMILLY defended the clauses of his bill. Mr. NAPIER was proceeding to address the House, when the debate came to an end by a "count out," at a quarter to 10 o'clock.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—The fifth and sixth articles of the law on education passed yesterday, after an animated debate. The Government has placed France quite under military rule, by dividing the country into four military commands. Generals Changarnier, Castellane, Géméau, and Maynaud, are those appointed. A letter from Marseilles, of the 7th, states that great agitation had been felt in that city for the last two or three days. The troops had all been confined to their barracks, and ammunition had been distributed to the national guards.

SWITZERLAND.—The Federal Council of Switzerland has addressed a circular to the Governments of the different cantons, relative to the refugees, whose expulsion from Switzerland has been demanded by the foreign powers. It states that the

following refugee leaders, being still in Switzerland, are to be forthwith expelled, namely, M.M. Fries, late member of the Provisional Government of the Palatinate; Richter, de Rotteck, Theobault, and Torrent, members of the committee of Baden; Gautert and Kuchling, commissaries; Sznade (or Schneider), and Racquillet, military leaders; Werner, dictator; and Lowekefels. They are ordered to be sought for and expelled before the 20th of February.

DISGRACEFUL PROCEEDINGS ON BOARD AN EMIGRANT-SHIP.

The *Daily News* of this morning calls attention, in a leading article, to lengthened statements which it copies from the *Adelaide Observer*, respecting disgraceful proceedings on board the emigrant-ship "Indian," which had been the subject of formal investigation before a committee and the Emigration Agent at Adelaide. A long letter was read from a Miss Caroline Arnold, who had gone up the country, and who was admitted by all parties to be a very respectable and well-conducted young woman. She complained of repeated insults from the purser, which, when represented to the captain and doctor, exposed her to continued annoyance, and, on one occasion, an attempt was made to "duck" her in the presence of those officers. The second mate, it is alleged, was in the habit of intruding himself into the cabin of the unmarried women at all hours of the day and night; he was seen lying in the beds of the girls by the matron and other witnesses; the matron complained to the doctor, but without effect. The officers of the vessel habitually converted the berths of the unmarried females into what one of the witnesses called a "floating brothel." The doctor repeatedly neglected to attend patients when labouring under severe illness. He repeatedly refused to attend invalids when sent for, although at the time amusing himself with fishing. A Mr. Shaw, who was suffering from rheumatism, had an additional blanket ordered for him by the doctor. Shaw complained one day of some other matter, and, within ten minutes, the blanket was taken from him. The nurse admitted that she took away the blanket; "there was an order to do so, but not from the doctor." The "medical comforts" put on board "to be issued at the discretion of the surgeon, whether for the sick or to preserve health," were refused to women and children who were invalids, and were freely distributed to favoured passengers, who are not alleged to have needed them. The emigrants were insufficiently supplied with bread, while the Captain's pigs were being fed upon it; and they were put upon short allowance of water, it not being alleged that there was a short supply on board.

A thorough investigation into this and similar cases is being prosecuted, and will no doubt lead to effective precautions against their repetition; otherwise, female emigration must be abandoned.

The *Cork Examiner* states that Dr. Sleight, of London, a member of the council of the National Reform Association, has arrived in Cork, on a tour through Ireland, for the purpose of organizing in that country associations to co-operate with the body in England in carrying out the reform policy of the present movement.

A DEPUTATION OF PAPER MANUFACTURERS had an interview with Lord John Russell yesterday, at his official residence in Downing-street, upon the subject of the excise duty on paper. The deputation consisted of Messrs. J. B. Crompton (Bolton), Thomas Wrigley and John Smith (Manchester), James Baldwin (Birmingham), John Birt (Chepstow), William Weatherley (Kent), John Smith and John Neill (Yorkshire), James Vint (Newcastle), James Durham and Henry Bruce (Edinburgh), Mr. Charles Knight (publisher, of London), Mr. W. S. Orr (London), Mr. Charles Chambers (Edinburgh). Messrs. Hume, M.P., Blair, M.P., Scholefield, M.P., and Cowan, M.P., accompanied the deputation.

A WEST INDIAN, the "Sarah," from Jamaica to London, was lost in the Princes Channel, Margate Roads, on Tuesday last. On that day she was left by a tug steamer, which was compelled to run for safety. From the tempestuous weather that prevailed during the following twenty-four hours, and the fact that nothing had been seen of her since, although she was right in the track of vessels trading to and from the river, coupled with the circumstance that a quantity of West India produce has been picked up in the vicinity of where she went adrift, as also pieces of wreck apparently of the same class of vessel, there is little doubt that the "Sarah" perished, with all hands.

THE TEN HOURS BILL.—REVIVAL OF THE AGITATION.—The result of the argument in the Court of Exchequer has thrown the operatives of Lancashire into the greatest state of excitement. Meetings are being nightly held in the various public-houses in which they are accustomed to assemble, at which the most firm and determined resolutions to maintain the principle of ten hours' work, and that it be continuous, are passed. Manchester, Bolton, Blackburn, Preston, Ashton, Oldham, Bury, &c., every town in Lancashire is on the move. On Monday night the Lancashire Central Committee held, at Manchester, its third meeting since the decision, at which it was agreed to call a delegate meeting from every town in the kingdom.

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With the market bare for grain, we are very dull for every article, without alteration in price.

Arrivals this week:—Wheat—English, 450 qrs.; Foreign, — qrs.; Barley—English, 1070 qrs.; Oats—English, 4240 qrs. Flour—40 sacks.

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Post-office Orders, &c., payable to Messrs. Miall and Cockshaw.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Received for Dr. Dick:—

A Young Lady	0 2 6
Weldon Reading Society	0 10 0
E. A.	0 5 0

In reference to the case of Dr. Dick we have received a communication from Mr. Noble, of Boston, from which we extract the following passage:—"It is certain that, at the advanced age of the venerable Dr., he, or his aged partner, cannot long need pecuniary assistance. I therefore venture to suggest the propriety of a committee being formed, to receive subscriptions from a sympathizing public, to realize a sum the interest of which shall suffice to place him in circumstances of comfort during his life, and at his (and Mrs. Dick's) decease, the principal to be appropriated to the objects of some institution to which all Christian people can cordially give their support—such as the Bible or Tract Society, or Sunday school Union. I think many persons would contribute more freely if assured of a beneficial appropriation of their gifts when the event—which may God yet for years defer—shall happen."

"An Old Dissenting Minister." We thank him for his friendly admonition. We partly agree with him, and partly differ. Our opinion may be expressed in few words—"This ought ye to do, and not to leave the other undone."

"Homo." We have not room during the sitting of Parliament for controversial correspondence.

"A. B. C." The above answer must be given to him; whose letter, containing sentiments in which we heartily agree, we should otherwise have liked to have inserted.

"Jane." We should think not—but we cannot tell, without knowing all the circumstances, what course it would have been right to adopt. We may just add, that all letters to our office should be pre-paid.

"A Poor Minister." Possibly a cheap edition may put it within his reach.

"W. H. L." Scarcely suits us.

"A Subscriber." We are utterly unable to suggest any course likely, in our judgment, to answer. The matter is now beyond us.

"G. L. W." We do not agree with him.

We will endeavour to find room for the communication relative to Somers-town in our next.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 13, 1850.

SUMMARY.

ECCELESIASTICAL topics have engrossed a larger share of attention during the past week than is usual at the commencement of the Parliamentary session. We will notice these first—partly, because we take a lively interest in them, partly, because their importance claims for them the precedence which our own sympathies would assign them. The famous "Gorham case," not yet decided, has notoriously exposed to public view the subordination of the Established Church, even in respect of her theological doctrines, to a tribunal of law presided over by laymen. To get rid of this unseemly anomaly and scandal, the Bishop of London has laid on the table of the House of Lords, a Bill for Abolishing the Appellate Jurisdiction of the Judicial Committee of Privy Council in Ecclesiastical Cases, and constituting a new Spiritual Court of Appeal, to consist of nine ecclesiastics and three lay judges—namely, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York; the three senior bishops; the Lord Chancellor; the Dean of the Court of Arches; the Judge of the Consistory Court of London; and the Regius and Margaret Professors of Divinity of Oxford and Cambridge. We had thought, until now, that the Queen was the Head of the Church, and that, according to constitutional law, she was acknowledged as being "over all causes within her dominion, ecclesiastical as well as civil, supreme." With our principles, it is impossible for us, of course, to justify such an arrangement; but, whilst there is a Church Establishment at all, we have our doubts whether a better can be substituted for it. It seems to be quite lawful for Tractarian zeal to propose an encroachment upon the royal prerogative, which the *Nonconformist* could have mooted, without subjecting himself to a charge of disloyalty, or of treason. The Lord Chancellor has considered this novel proposition, and, we may judge from the comments of the Tory press, is doubtful whether the scheme, unless

greatly modified, will receive the ultimate sanction of the legislature.

The doings of the Ecclesiastical Commission have occupied the notice of the House of Commons more largely, perhaps, than either the Government, or the bishops, find agreeable. Mr. Horsman, true to the letter and spirit of his promise to his constituents, in moving a resolution declaratory of the wish of the House of Commons, to give effect to the recommendation of their own committee of inquiry on this subject, drew a most graphic picture of the mode in which business was transacted by the said Ecclesiastical Commission. As we have dwelt somewhat at large upon this topic in our first page, it will be unnecessary for us here to notice anything more than the episode which grew out of the debate. Sir George Grey, in his laboured, but unsuccessful, attempt to push aside Mr. Horsman's damaging statement of facts, taunted him with having shrunk from repeating in the House, insinuations affecting the truthfulness of ministers, which he had not scrupled to put into his letter to his constituents. Thus challenged, Mr. Horsman, in his reply, re-asserted all that he had previously affirmed—and there, for the time being, the matter dropped. On a subsequent day, however, Mr. Roebuck, affecting concern for the character of the House, and of her Majesty's Ministers, as distinguished members of it, drew the attention of the House to that passage in Mr. Horsman's letter which imputed double-dealing to Lord John Russell and to Sir George Grey. Lord John being thus called up, offered his explanation of the matter, which went far to corroborate Mr. Horsman's statement, and avenged himself upon his antagonist by imputing his mistakes to "inflated vanity." Sir George Grey indulged in a great deal of indignant rhodomontade. Mr. Horsman, undismayed by the "laughter" of the House, and unconvinced by Lord John Russell's explanation, coolly, but firmly, persisted in his charge, which Lord John Russell said he ought to prove before a Committee of the House, the appointment of which, if asked for by Mr. Horsman, he himself would sanction. The Member for Cockerham was not the man to be browbeaten into silence by a contemptuous Premier, and so he instantly placed a notice on the books to move on Monday night for a committee of inquiry. The affair now became serious. The friends of Lord John Russell, seeing that Mr. Horsman was not to be crushed, grew alarmed, and on Monday night Lord Ashley stepped forth as mediator, deprecated the appointment of a committee, and professed his belief that both parties had acted from the purest motives, and that each was probably labouring under a mistake. Further explanations followed—the upshot of which was, that offensive expressions were withdrawn, and promises made on both sides to be more considerate of each other's feelings for the future. The public, however, we judge, will draw from the conclusion of this episode the inference that Mr. Horsman could not have been far from right.

Colonial matters come next under notice. We have elsewhere dealt with Lord John Russell's statement of the colonial policy which her Majesty's Government propose to pursue. Connected with this also, there is a curious episode. A committee of the House of Commons, appointed last session to inquire into the causes and course of the insurrection at Ceylon, had complained to the House, previously to the recess, of being met by the Downing-street officials in an obstructive temper—whereupon, Mr. Hawes, the Under Secretary, anxious, no doubt, to save his character, engaged to send, during the recess, for any witnesses that the committee might wish to examine. It was found impossible on the spur of the moment to nominate more than two individuals, but, as the session was closing, the committee devolved upon their chairman, Mr. Baillie, the responsibility of pointing out the individuals whose testimony would be required, and to this arrangement Mr. Hawes acceded. As soon, however, as Parliament was up, Earl Grey declined submission to what he called the dictation of an individual member, and refused to send for any other witnesses than the two who had been previously named by the committee. This fact occasioned some angry recriminations on Wednesday last, but on Monday, upon a motion for re-appointing the Ceylon committee, Mr. Roebuck eclipsed the personal squabble, by venturing criticism on the original matter of dispute. We know not how to characterise his speech. It was a profession of the broadest principles of despotism, as the basis of rule in our populous dependencies. It set the sword above law. It justified every excess of cruelty, the end of which might be temporary peace. It imputed unworthy motives to men who deem murder and rapine by military governors, matters which claim Parliamentary investigation. Mr. Hume described it as "the most tyrannical speech to which he had ever listened in the House of Commons." For ourselves, we are rather grieved than surprised at this outburst of the member for Sheffield. His mind, we fear, even in politics, like that of his friend, Lord

Brougham, is the mind of an advocate, rather than of a statesman. It is hard to say on what side you will find him.

The other topics of Parliamentary intelligence we must link together in a single paragraph. The debate on Hungary we have touched upon in another column. Government measures have been submitted, in conformity with previous notice, for the amendment of law processes in the judicial courts of Ireland, for restraining party processions in that country, for enabling persons having a limited interest in lands to grant improving and building leases, for the better administration of small charitable trusts, for abolishing the act which gives head-money to pirates, for improving the character and condition of merchant seamen, and for extending the franchise, and shortening the duration of elections in Ireland. Mr. Scrope has made an unsuccessful attempt to exempt dwelling-houses below a certain value from taxation—an attempt which, if it had succeeded, would have prolonged the existence of the worst class of dwelling-houses for the poor. And Mr. Macgregor has urged in vain the claims of Kensington and its neighbourhood to fill up the Parliamentary place of the disfranchised borough of Sudbury. Mr. Stuart Wortley has succeeded better with his Marriages Bill, leave to bring in which was voted by a majority of 149 to 65.

We earnestly invite notice to our report of the business transacted on Wednesday last, at an adjourned meeting of the Council of the British Anti-state-church Association. It will be seen that its attention was chiefly occupied with arrangements for the approaching Triennial Conference. We cannot doubt the interest which our readers will take in all that relates to that important gathering; and we devoutly trust that wherever it is practicable, delegates may be appointed as soon as local convenience will allow, and occasion may be taken in doing so, to disseminate and recommend the principle, object, and movements of the Association.

During the past week a deputation has waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to urge upon him the repeal of the duty on advertisements during the coming session. Sir Charles Wood of course made no promises on the subject, but it is believed that by a little pressure from without, he may be induced to give up the small amount of revenue derived from this source. Both to the press and to the public the remission of this vexatious and unjust impost would be a great boon. There is no reason why advertising should not be as much resorted to in this country, as in America, where no such tax is collected. The loss of £150,000 (the amount of the tax) would scarcely be felt now there is likely to be a handsome surplus in the Exchequer. Moreover, there would not be likely to be any interested opposition in the House of Commons to its repeal. We can, therefore, easily imagine that if the proprietors and editors of provincial journals would, without delay, urge upon the several town and county representatives with whom they are connected, the desirableness of supporting Mr. Ewart's motion on the subject, few, whatever might be their politics, would disregard such a request. On the contrary, we think even Protectionist members would be glad of an opportunity of doing so small a favour at so small a cost, to a class of men whose influence they cannot but acknowledge. This is a kind of appeal which would tell with more effect upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer than all the arguments which could be urged by an out-door deputation.

The Puseyite section of the Committee of the National Society have, during the past week, made another demonstration against the encroachments of the Committee of Council on Education, and in favour of receiving the aid of the State in support of their schools free from the conditions imposed by that Board. They complain of the unconstitutional proceedings of the Committee, and declare that the system of popular instruction they are pursuing will in the end reduce this country "to the condition of anarchy and confusion in which continental nations have been recently plunged." As the subject is likely to be brought before Parliament during the present session, we shall await the result of that appeal, before commenting at length upon the arguments of these High-Church exclusives. When they find that they cannot obtain the State grant without conditions, they will, no doubt, abate their claims.

Our differences with Greece have been submitted to the mediation, or, as Lord Palmerston gingerly phrases it, "the good offices" of the French Government. After assuming the airs of a military dictator towards his former protégé, King Otho, Lord Palmerston is at length obliged to submit to the humiliation of accepting the proffered arbitration of one of the powers whose influence in Greece he has for the last few years done his best to counteract. This seems to be the sole result of the uncalled-for naval demonstration in the Piræus, except that it has furnished other nations with an additional argument in proof of the domineering spirit of Great Britain. For the future our Go-

vernment may deem it more consistent with their own reputation, as well as with sound policy, to have recourse to arbitration for the settlement of international differences *before* they proceed to hostile measures. At all events they have furnished Mr. Cobden with a perfect illustration of the monstrous absurdity of our Foreign-office system.

The new Prussian constitution is now a *fait accompli*. The King and the Legislature have, in the most solemn manner, pledged themselves to observe it—the former, with an apparent sincerity which indicates that, amidst all his eccentricities, he has yet wisdom enough to see that the Divine right of the sovereign, of which he is so tenacious, is in the present day nothing more than a dreamy abstraction. More than any other continental monarch, Frederick William is susceptible of moral considerations. Although strangely fickle, and apt to be swayed by evil counsellors, his conscientiousness will probably prevent him from violating the constitution to which he has sworn. It is stated, that after that ceremony he exclaimed with a fervent expression of joy, "Now, thank God, the revolution is closed!"—an exclamation which furnishes a key to much of his previous policy, and an indication that he is conscious of the new duties and responsibilities he has undertaken. Defective as that charter is, in many respects, it is a great advance upon the civil rights which Prussia has hitherto enjoyed; and anxious as the great bulk of the nation may be for a more liberal constitution, it will probably be accepted as an instalment of the debt due by the sovereign to his subjects.

COLONIAL REFORM.

It must be conceded to Lord John Russell that he is a perfect master in the art of making small things assume an appearance of great importance. None better than he can invest trivial measures with an air of grandeur—none, make believe that his statesmanship is comprehensive, whilst engaged in prosecuting the most peddling schemes. It is curious to watch the process by which he contrives to compass this end. It would seem as though the first step is, by means of the whispering of subordinates, to excite in the public mind an expectation of a daring stroke of policy. This is followed up by such arrangements for its introduction to the legislature, as may serve to heighten the dignity and solemnity of subsequent proceedings. Then follows a speech of unusual length, partly historical, partly critical, and, to a small extent, promissory, in which just sentiments are expressed in impressive terms, susceptible, however, of more than one interpretation, and which is closed by a peroration radiant with the purest patriotism. Amidst the dazzle of fine words, true thoughts, and hinted promises, some paltry reform creeps on to its consummation, lost to notice in consequence of the splendid halo which envelopes it, or if regarded at all, looked at solely in the light of that atmosphere of verbal liberality by which it is surrounded.

Towards the close of last session, Mr. Hawes, Under Secretary for the Colonies, after some three years' preparatory flourish of trumpets, introduced a bill for the better government of our Australian colonies. Some features of that measure were ostensibly liberal—others betrayed clearly enough the bureaucratic and Church-ridden spirit of Whig paternity. It was debated and withdrawn—but no man, whether friend or foe, dreamt of regarding it as a great measure of Colonial Reform. Parliament was prorogued—and, during the recess, a society was instituted, consisting of leading men of all political parties, having for its object the emancipation of our principal colonies from the galling bondage of home-spun red-tapeism. It became necessary, or it seemed so, to take the wind out of the sails of this formidable-looking movement. For the purpose, probably, of lulling it into temporary inaction at least, it was given out about a month before the opening of the session, that Ministers contemplated such a reform of our colonial system as would confer upon our distant dependencies the privilege of unfettered self-government in all that relates to their local affairs, and would relieve the mother country of much of the expense which she now bears in defending them from aggression. Immediately on the assembling of Parliament notice was given that Lord John Russell would take an early opportunity of making a statement of the future colonial policy of the Government. On Friday last, in a speech of great length, the Premier gave a history of our principal colonies, discussed the question of retaining them, uttered some noble sentiments about the spirit in which they should be governed, hinted at some possibilities of a very liberal character, wound up with a reference to the yet distant contingency of peaceful separation, and independence, and—presented the old bill of our friend the Under Secretary—neither more, nor less. It was thoroughly Whig—in sight, a magnificent porch, leading to nothing but a pigstie.

Nothing, certainly, could be more assuring than the tone which ran through Lord John Russell's speech. When he said, "It appears to me that

in saying that wherever Englishmen went, they should enjoy English freedom and English institutions, our ancestors acted at once justly and wisely," he seemed to have conceded in the handsomest manner all that could be reasonably claimed—and when afterwards, towards the close of his speech, he declared, "The rule should be to send to the different parts of the world you would colonize, and maintain in those parts of the world where you have colonies, men who are capable of governing themselves—men who shall know that they have full liberty to govern themselves, and that while you are their representatives on all foreign matters, in their domestic concerns you want to interfere no farther than is clearly and decidedly necessary to prevent a conflict in the societies you wish to preserve," he might have been taken for the mouthpiece of the Colonial Reform Association. His reference to the warning held out to us by "the unhappy conflict which took place with what are now the United States of America," and to the cause of it, "a series of repeated errors and repeated blunders—policy asserted, and then defeated—again asserted and again defeated—concession when it was too late, and obstinacy when it was unseasonable," would have been most appropriate as inaugurating an entire change of policy, or as describing that pursued so doggedly by Earl Grey. But, it is Lord John's customary manner, when he has an end to gain, to enounce fine sentiments, and breathe out a liberal spirit. It is a pity that we should be compelled to spell out his lofty addresses by the aid of his farthing-rushlight measures; or, to change the figure, that at the bottom of such delicious froth, we should invariably find such a mere atom of satisfying substance. The Premier, when he designs to impress us with his generosity, gives us a most tempting smell of cheese, but disappoints us of the taste. He sets the people down to the most niggardly fare, and hangs up within scent an onion to give his crust a relish.

"English institutions," no doubt, are fine things for English colonists to possess—government enjoyed in turn by a few noble families—taxes laid on without mercy, and squandered without consideration—a legislature made up of hereditary peers, and of a majority of representative members nominated by them—a Church whose wealth is absorbed by dignitaries and idlers, whose work is done by starving curates, and whose abuses not even a Horsman can reform—but our colonies, perhaps, will not thank Lord John for giving them these blessings. And yet, as interpreted by his acts, rather than judged of by his professions, this is what he substantially means. He wishes the Australias to enjoy self-government, and he provides for each of them a Legislative Chamber, one-third of the members of which are to be nominated by the Governor sent out by the Colonial Office. He would not interfere needlessly in their domestic affairs, and he reserves to the Downing-street official the power of disallowing all their laws. In the very bill which he asks leave to introduce, after all his captivating oratory, he prevents the colonists from altering the salary of their governors, and from diminishing by a fraction the revenues assigned to ecclesiastical purposes. He assures us, indeed, that the conduct of the Government over which he presides has been generally based upon the principles which he had already enounced—leaving us to draw the inference, that no essential change is needed, and that none meriting that description is intended. He professes that he has in store for the Cape of Good Hope a constitution instinct with the genius of freedom—but he is not going to give it to Canada, nor to the Australias, nor to New Zealand. Governor Barkly's reform bill for Guiana, as notorious and laughable a sham as was ever offered to a people, he holds up as an instance of Whig sincerity and liberality—and, in face of the fact, that everywhere throughout our colonial dominions the bitterest discontent is rife, and a spirit of resistance little short of rebellion is prevalent, he concludes his magnificent preface to his pettifogging measure with the consolation that, after showing thus much generosity, whatever may hereafter happen to this great empire, we shall at least have "contributed to the happiness of the world."

We doubt whether the annals of any kingdom under the sun can furnish a parallel to the inflation of Whig statesmanship. It is one great pretence—a system which can only be fittingly described by two words—puff and powder—wonderful as described by themselves, pitiful as felt by others—a mocking echo to a nation's demands, giving back to them in somewhat fainter tones their own voice, and that is all. "Self-government for the colonies," shouts public opinion. "Self-government for the colonies," is the verbal replication of Lord John Russell, followed by a little change of machinery, and a maintenance of the same purpose and policy. And there are crowds of men, and not a few journalists, who, having been deluded again and again by this trickery, are foolish enough to yield themselves up once more to the delusion—and, instead of looking at the actual measures of these Whigs

to catch merely at their words, and repeat with a chuckle of satisfaction—"self-government for the colonies"—noble sentiment—important concession!" For our part, we do not recollect a more successful instance of what is vulgarly called "bamboozle," than Lord John Russell's statement of colonial policy, introductory to Mr. Hawes's paltry and equivocal Australian bill—and that any impression but that of disgust should have been made by it on the House of Commons, is only an additional proof that that House is not in harmony with the sterner common sense which prevails out of doors. If the voice of the country could be distinctly heard in reference to this famous *exposé* of ministerial principles and plans, we verily believe it would confine its utterance to the single monosyllable of our honest but disguised friend in the Vicar of Wakefield—"Fudge!"

THE DEBATE ON HUNGARY.

To those who are accustomed to think freely and feel strongly, the debate in the House of Commons, last Thursday night, on Lord Dudley Stuart's motion, seems strangely lacking in energy on the part of the speakers and excitement on that of the silent. Something may be suffered by the transference of speech into print—but yet the contrast is striking enough between this Parliamentary discussion and out-of-door demonstrations on the same subject. It seems impossible that an equal number of men would listen with equal equanimity to the statements then made in any other atmosphere. Not to legislative decorum or deliberative solemnity can it be put down. A question of rival railways, or a personal squabble between a couple of partizans, would have called forth more brilliant speeches and a more animated assembly.

No one will suspect the noble mover—noble in a higher than conventional sense—of sustaining his motion with less of enthusiasm than of ability; but with that exception, we repeat, comparative dullness seems to have reigned in the very hearing of statements that one would expect to stir the "fat weed that rots by Lethe's wharf." If, however, there is little or nothing to be admired, there is something to gratify. If little enthusiasm is displayed on behalf of justice, freedom, and humanity—no generous indignation unloosed against despotism and cruelty—there is less attempt than formerly to misrepresent facts, to calumniate the injured, or to justify the criminal. If Palmerston has descended from a manly avowal of national sentiment into a guarded expression of official wishes, Russell assents in silence to Lord Dudley Stuart's historical vindication of Hungarian independence—Disraeli ventures only to suggest that Austrian executions and proscriptions find a parallel and a palliation in the uniform severity of the victorious party in a civil war—Lord Claude Hamilton alone, rising from the back benches of the Protectionist quarter, dares to raise a voice in favour of the house of Hapsburg; and is followed by Mr. Cockburn's reading a list of atrocities that no one has the temerity either to deny or to excuse—even Anstey evokes a cheer on the credit of humanity, and the degenerate grandson of the great Grattan is rewarded by mingled laughter and applause for a peroration more honourable to his heart than to his head. The first point that we have noted, is, perhaps, the most important, since it justifies—if justification could be needed—the agitation carried on during the recess on behalf of the Hungarian people; and, consequently, authoritatively condemns the course pursued by journals even more obsequious to the Cabinets of Vienna and Petersburg than of London. "Rebels" is the mildest epithet that has been applied by the *Times* and *Chronicle* to Kosuth and his compeers, week after week—no one rises from the absolutist section of the House to repeat the aspersion. The national independence of Hungary from the time of our own immersion in feudalism, is corroborated by the volunteered statement of Lord Claude Hamilton; and his clumsy attempt at connecting the Turkish invasion with the dependence of Hungary on the help of its Austrian sovereign for deliverance, does damage only to his own pretensions to historical scholarship. That Hungary was as much independent of Austria as Scotland of England, until they became united under one monarch—that she retained her independence, unlike Scotland, refusing to merge herself into the neighbouring nation—that she possessed institutions so liberal as entitle her to be called the England of Eastern Europe from a period as remote as our own Magna Charta, and has pertinaciously defended them, generation after generation—that her Protestantism especially has incurred for her the unrelenting hostility of a house notorious for bigoted servility to the Papacy, driving her even to prefer the tolerant rule of a Mahomedan—that her recent policy has been that of unanimous, spontaneous progress in the direction of yet more liberal institutions—and that her armed struggle with her Austrian rulers was justifiable as any contest in the annals of the world—these are now admitted facts, and as such may be referred to with laudable pride by those

whose moral instincts, it may be, rather than the definite conclusions of their understandings, first united them in sympathy and hope with the fellow-countrymen and soldiers of the illustrious Kossuth.

We would also notice that portion of Lord Dudley Stuart's speech, in which he vindicated himself from the charge of "Russophobia."

"He would tell them how far he was a Russophobe. He was quite convinced that when this country spoke in earnest to Russia, and told her that she would not have certain things done, that the voice of this country would be obeyed, and that she would have no occasion to make it heard by the roar of cannon. He knew that it was a perfect farce to talk of Russia resisting the power of this country for a single day. At the same time, he was so far infected with Russophobia, that he was not disposed to take such a course as would turn that weakness into an overpowering might. He was not disposed to allow Russia to possess the most fertile portion of the globe, nor the second station; because, if that were done, she would no longer be weak—she would no longer be obliged to come into such measures as this country should state, but she will have made a great stretch towards universal empire. She would threaten our Indian empire and our commerce, and then force us into a war, of which there was now no danger, nor was there any occasion for it. Russia would not abandon her designs of national aggrandisement, but though she was patient in her designs, and wished to aggrandise herself, not by conquest, but by insidious means, whenever there was a question of putting liberty down, all her self-possession seemed to abandon her; then she no longer acted by slow and measured means, but came forward directly and impetuously, in order to destroy all really sound and wholesome reforms, wherever she found them. What occasioned the last partition of Poland in 1791 but the introduction of reform? In 1829 why did she interfere with Turkey? Because she found that Turkey was engaged in producing reforms. In 1848 she interfered with Wallachia from the same cause, and in 1849 she interfered with Hungary because that country preferred the most legitimate of all claims—to be governed by the constitution they had once enjoyed."

Not only does this passage indicate the precise position sustained by Russia to England and the cause of continental freedom, but it corroborates the view we have from the first entertained as to the course which our Government should have pursued the moment that the Czar's armies marched towards the Hungarian frontiers. There can be no doubt that the probability of war would have been as remote as at this hour had Lord Palmerston been permitted by his colleagues to tell the Russian Cabinet, as we are willing to believe his own impulses as an English statesman prompted him, that its interference could not be tolerated. How much of suffering might thereby have been averted—by how much the emancipation of Europe from the hereditary despotisms that have so long cursed it would have been advanced—is too melancholy, and touches too closely on the mysterious, for hasty comment.

We cannot refrain from remarking, that after all we can interfere between foreign despots and their victims with little consistency, and therefore with little effect, while we suffer accidental and meaner tyrants to imitate them in barbarism beneath the protection of our own flag. Ceylon and Corfu are words, coming from the lips of an Austrian or Russian, that crimson our cheek and unnerve our arm. We may say with justice, that it is not the people but the aristocracy of England who permit Torrington and Ward to disgrace the national name, and earn for it universal hatred; but not less pungent is the retort, "Thou hypocrite! cast out the beam from thine own eye; then mayest thou see clearly to pluck out the mote that is in thy brother's eye."

"THE STRUGGLES OF A BOOK AGAINST EXCESSIVE TAXATION."

SUCH is the striking title of a pamphlet just issued by Mr. Charles Knight, the well-known publisher, or, rather, celebrated educator, for such he truly is—another protest against the stupid and vexatious paper duty. We thought to have done with the subject until its discussion in Parliament once more fairly entitled us to re-open it; but the facts which Mr. Knight has brought together are so astounding and conclusive, that it is a public duty to make them as widely known as possible.

With the year 1833 he started a work of inestimable value and almost of national magnitude—the "Penny Cyclopædia." Projected by himself, it was also carried on at his own entire cost, though appearing under the auspices of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge. Through seventeen years of anxiety and difficulty he prosecuted the enterprise, kept faith with the public, and added a Supplement. He had the first year a sale of 50,000, which settled down, as might have been expected, from the size and cost of the work, at 20,000. He paid for literary contributions and engravings no less than £42,000. He had consumed, in the work, 50,000 reams of paper, weighing 35lbs. each, at the period of its completion; since when 2,000 reams more have been used for reprints, to supply inequalities in the stock. Up to 1837, when the duty was reduced from 3d. to 1½d., he had paid £8,750 in that form; and subsequently, including wrappers and covers, £7,799—making a total of upwards of £16,500 for paper duty on this single work!

But this, he justly contends, is little more than half the whole burden, since excise duty invariably almost doubles itself in other inevitable charges. "The struggles of one book against taxation," he emphatically says, "up to this point, are to be measured by a burden of twenty-nine thousand pounds!" And beyond that, he pursues the operation of the impost, exposes its crippling influence upon him at every step of his difficult progress, looking up his capital in the form of duty paid on printed but unsold paper, the interest on which alone would have enabled him to get rid of that dead stock, and possibly restore the average sale of the work to the point at which it started.

We cannot follow Mr. Knight into the elaborate and interesting calculations which he makes as to the unequal operation of the duty upon opposite classes of publications. Not only may the frugal, intelligent workman, as he looks at his half-filled bookshelves, and sighs at the vacant room, attribute it to this barbarous tax that Mr. Knight is unable to issue at prices yet lower than hitherto works of inestimable value to the self-educated—and the general reader see why it is he cannot carry into effect his noble and, apparently, long-cherished design, the conduct of a work in which he would enlist as his coadjutors "the very best and most renowned intellects of the time, those whom the people idolize as the perennial sources of their delight, and reverence as their friends and instructors"—but the man of religion, patriotism, and philanthropy, may discover how it is that all efforts to propagate truth, political or moral, are outdone by agencies of error and pollution; and may take to himself blame if his supineness contributes to the maintenance of this greatest existing impediment to the diffusion of literature, the popular influence of Christianity, and the attainment of larger liberty.

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

DECLINE OF OFFICIAL CREDIT.

(From the Spectator.)

Confidence in public men cannot survive such discussions as those of Wednesday and Thursday. The mistrust that they inspire is wholly independent of the merits of the particular colonial or clerical question on which they happened to arise. A common phrase to express a man's honesty is, "his word is his bond;" you cannot say so of any of the Ministers implicated in these discussions. Mr. Hume avowed that he did not believe Lord Grey, and that Lord Grey's statements are not believed in the Colonies: which is true; but is not that fact very shocking? Lord John Russell is charged with fraud, and has not fully rebutted the charge. All this involves much degradation and peril for our ruling classes. It destroys faith in their speech, however exalted; it invalidates their promises, mortifies their influence, and saps their power.

Towards the close of last session, Ministers consented to an understanding that Mr. Disraeli's proposition for bringing certain witnesses from Ceylon, in lieu of sending out a commission of inquiry, should be fulfilled; and the Committee was to name the witnesses. The Committee, pressed for time and not prepared with specific names, delegated the nomination to its chairman, Mr. Baillie; and Mr. Hawes, a member of the Committee, concurred. But now Lord Grey refuses, on the plea that he will not be at the "orders" of Mr. Baillie, and that the voyage of the witnesses will be expensive. Lord John Russell, who ratified the understanding of last session, adopts the misunderstanding of this.

In some degree, this awkward position may be ascribed to the blundering of Mr. Hawes; but what are the facts before the public in his case? His manner—a bold and ready partisanship on behalf of his chief—is precisely what it has been before; he transposes documents; at one time he falls in with the plan of the Committee, at another he consents to have that implied pledge set aside, without abating his ready service for Lord Grey. What does the public inevitably infer from such conduct? That an Under Secretary of State may have as little substantive will or sensitive honour as a footman, and that his word is not to be relied upon: that his honour is not pledged to redeem his word, but is subject to orders from his master.

Earl Grey's breach of Lord John Russell's understanding and Mr. Hawes's pledge may not be dictated by motives meaner than perversity and pride—not elevated motives—but the facts remain, that he obstinately refuses to fulfil an understanding ratified by his chief and acted on by his body servant; and that in doing so, he suppresses evidence hostile to his own administration. A man of sensitive honour, keenly alive to the necessity of maintaining confidence in his order and in public men, would have stretched a point of etiquette or practice to fulfil the natural interpretation of the understanding with his colleagues: Lord Grey does not scruple to stretch a point pretty often, but it is all the other way.

Lord John Russell consents to stand in the same equivocal position. He repudiates the natural interpretation of the understanding, and prefers an interpretation in the non-natural sense. It is an untoward circumstance that his obstructing the needful evidence tends to shield his own relative, Lord Torrington. Lord John's high position only makes this example more mischievous.

The naked results are, that an understanding of a kind very usual between public men, and very convenient, is broken; the concurrence of an official is

set aside, as if it mattered nothing; public confidence and convenience are sacrificed to indulge Earl Grey's morbid perversity; and all this is done in order to the suppression of evidence adverse to the official persons concerned.

The other case is the manner in which Mr. Horsman's charge of fraud is treated by the Premier and the Home Secretary. It was slurred over in the debate on the Ecclesiastical Commission, but Mr. Roebuck had it out on Thursday. It amounts to this—that Lord John Russell pretended to accept certain amendments urged by Mr. Horsman for the Ecclesiastical Commission Bill, and then covertly procured Sir George Grey to insert other amendments intended to conciliate the Archbishop of Canterbury. That is Mr. Horsman's charge. Lord John Russell's reply amounts to this—that he does not remember exactly what he said; that he did say he would "consider" Mr. Horsman's amendments; and that it might perhaps have been better if he had told Mr. Horsman the difference there was between them. But no account of the case can be put so damagingly as a hypothetical apology by the most powerful advocate of Ministers, the Times:—

Rather than believe that any of the antagonist parties say what is absolutely untrue, or is utterly and insanely at fault, we are glad to take refuge in some hypothesis which will divide the blame between them. What if Mr. Horsman, being, as all men know, a very thorn in the Episcopal flesh, and a considerable nuisance to any Minister who descends to a compromise with the Right Reverend Bench, presented himself, uninvited, to Lord John Russell last session, and expressed certain opinions as to the proper reconstruction of the Ecclesiastical Commission,—what if his lordship was sufficiently astute to see that some advantage might be taken of this gratuitous move on the part of a troublesome antagonist,—what if he said he would thereupon consult the Primate and other parties concerned, and that he confidently hoped that the amendments likely to ensue would meet with favour, even in the wakeful eyes of the Anti-Episcopal Argus,—what if he, nevertheless, but not much to his surprise, found it impossible to make such amendments as Mr. Horsman would regard with unqualified satisfaction,—what if he felt rather too much comfort in the thought, that it was not his place to acquaint Mr. Horsman with the disappointment that awaited him, and if he therefore permitted it to transpire slowly and gently through the forms of the House,—what if the honourable member for Cockermouth himself, for once, was found napping, and was rather long in discovering that, so far as regards the session of 1849, he is not the supreme head of the Church in this country,—does not that hypothesis explain both Mr. Horsman's attack and Lord John Russell's defence?

And what is all that but jockeying Mr. Horsman? Such is the supposititious apology to which the Ministerial advocate is reduced!

Mr. Horsman challenged Ministers to grant him a committee of inquiry: Lord John Russell returned an indirect answer!

But why should Ministers care to preserve their character unimpaired? the acquiescent Commons do not demand it.

THE NEW PRUSSIAN CONSTITUTION.

(From the Daily News.)

The King of Prussia has taken with due solemnity the oath to his constitution. It is far from being either a perfect or a popular one. The mode in which it was granted, and in which it has been finally, abruptly, and imperatively cobbled to suit a tardy humour of the King for the re-establishment of an aristocracy, must, we fear, take from it that respect which a constitution ought to command from the popular mind. The popular party holds aloof, whilst the new charter is in fact a system of government propounded by the King to his notables of the wealthy and enlightened classes, protested against even by them as not going far enough to satisfy public opinion, but finally accepted by them for peace-sake. This no doubt is done with the hope that government may work the constitution in a liberal sense, and the people become more reconciled to it in practice than they could approve either of its theory, or of the mode in which it had been forced upon them.

In its main features the Prussian constitution is a copy of the Belgian, the articles of which indeed it follows closely, adopting its guarantees and fundamental principles. In the practical working of the constitution, however, especially in the formation of its Chambers, the Prussian separates from the Belgian, the latter giving full scope to popular influence and freedom, the Prussian keeping down or sifting the popular element as much as possible, and confining influence to the more wealthy classes. The dividing the electors in three categories, of the highest, middle, and lowest taxpayers, and giving to the few of the first class the same amount of electoral power as the many of the last class, is an invention which, coupled with two degrees of election, establishes for Prussia the exclusive rule of an aristocracy of wealth. There are some countries to which such an arrangement would not be unsuitable, especially at the commencement of a constitutional career—countries, for example, in which wealth and intelligence go together. But in Prussia, unfortunately, the intelligent classes are not those best endowed with fortune, and consequently the wealthy class is not there always the most respected.

According to the first draft of the octroyed constitution, the predominance in both chambers was given to the aristocracy of wealth; but recently the King has bethought him of counterbalancing it by an aristocracy of birth; and hence his effort to constitute a house of peers, consisting of hereditary and life peers of his nomination. Nothing could be more absurd. This would-be noblesse in Prussia is penniless (Gerlach himself, who heads the party, has not the fortune of a lawyer's clerk); and, there-

fore, instead of pillars supporting the throne, they would be made pillars suspended from it, such as have been seen and tried in certain theatrical edifices that have crumbled. The scheme, indeed, has been defeated by the constitutionalists, who have succeeded in securing one-half of the upper chamber to elective members; so that the tardy move of the King for the maintenance of entails and the re-establishment of a landed and political aristocracy has failed. The King originally allowed the universities to send members to the upper house. But it was ruled later that birth and wealth should alone be represented there, and intelligence was in consequence eliminated.

The worst feature indeed in the royal code or constitution of Prussia is its universal mistrust, its mistrust of every class. A singular instance of this is, that whilst predominance is carefully given to the aristocracy of wealth in the Chamber of Representatives, yet even to such a chamber is denied the right, granted under all constitutions to the lower chamber, to have full control over the voting of taxes. The King of Prussia would not give even this exclusively to the House of Commons. Thus the power which his Majesty bestows with the one hand, he seeks to withdraw with the other. And so it is with the press, so with the juries.

There are none of the King's later alterations so objectionable as those by which he nullifies the authority of the judicial courts, and converts justice into a mere political engine. His proposal was first to create a kind of Star Chamber, an especial court for state offences, and at the same time to transfer the interpretation, that is, the awarding of the sentence in all questions of constitutional law to the Chamber from the judges. Thus every prosecution would become a political struggle, not a judicial trial. Not only was the High Court of Justice borrowed from France, but the system of impunity and freedom from prosecution enjoyed by all officials and authorities in France is also foisted into the Prussian system, making it altogether a code as much French as German.

Whatever, therefore, may be our opinion of the Prussian constitution, and of the conduct of the court with regard to it, we still think that it is most suicidal policy of the German liberals to hold aloof from it, and to decline taking advantage of the legal and regular influence which they might still wield, in order to remain in sullen quietude, expectant of another outbreak or revolution. The revolution may be long coming, or may never come. There are reasons at present which in central Europe divide middle and lower classes more widely than ever was the case before, and Government have taken advantage of these. It is not, therefore, by physical force, or by appeals to it, that either liberty or unity can be now established in Germany. There are plenty of weapons, abundance of power and influence, even under the *octroyed* constitution, at the disposal of intelligence, if it will duly and wisely use and apply them. These alone are amply sufficient to restore to the Prussian, and consequently to the German, constitution all the popular and fair elements which they may now want, and which are denied by the narrowness and folly of princes.

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY, AND THE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE.—A meeting of the friends of National Education was held at Willis's Rooms on Thursday. Mr. Talbot, Q.C., presided. The Bishop of Winchester and the Bishop of Glasgow, the Warden of Winchester College, the Rev. Dr. Molesworth, Archdeacon Manning, Mr. G. A. Denison, Lord Nelson, the Hon. R. Cavendish, Mr. Napier, M.P., and Mr. Roundell Palmer, M.P., took part in the proceedings. The Rev. Archdeacon Manning opened with prayer. The chairman stated that the correspondence between the National Society and the Committee of Education was now at an end; and the Church is thrown on her own internal resources. Mr. G. A. Denison said, that "all education flowed from, and necessarily depended upon, the doctrine of regeneration in baptism—that doctrine which had so monstrously been of late made the subject of appeal to a court not necessarily composed of Christians." They would have no legislating for the Church by the Committee of Education; no Minister of Public Instruction in England, or, more dangerous, the office without the name; no godless colleges: the seed might be sown, but it should be crushed ere it grew to a plant. The Rev. W. Sewell denounced the system of education apart from the doctrinal teaching of the Church, as ripe with the seeds of anarchy: it inevitably destroyed veneration for the Creator, love for the parent, respect for the teacher, and obedience to the State. Resolutions were passed which characterised the Committee of Council on Education as an incipient Legislative Board of Public Instruction; denounced the aggressions of that body, especially the establishment of the Normal School at Kneller-hall, at the expenditure of more than £30,000 of public money, without previous Parliamentary sanction; and affirmed the necessity of an appeal to Parliament for a removal of the impediments which preclude many Church schools from receiving the public money voted for education. An address to the Queen and to the two Houses of Parliament was adopted.

THE PROTECTIONIST SOCIETY.—The arrangements connected with the amalgamation of the Central Protection Society, Old Bond-street, with the National Society for the protection of all kinds of home industry, have just been completed. The establishment at Old Bond-street is in the course of being broken up. The new premises are in the city.

THE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Post-office, for the abolition of Sunday labour in, 95.
Capital Punishment, 4.
Ceylon, for redress of grievances, 2.
Education (Ireland), for alteration of present system, 4.
(Scotland), 1.
County Expenditure, for establishment of a county board, 17.
Marriage Law (1849), in favour of, 1.
against, 1.
Taxes on Knowledge, for repeal of, 1.
Piracy, for repeal of the law, 1.
Slave-trade, for suppression, 2.
Taxation, for reduction of, 1.
Window Duty, for repeal of, 1.
Cape of Good Hope, against penal settlement, 1.
New South Wales, 1.
New Zealand, for representative institutions, 1.

BILLS PRESENTED AND READ A FIRST TIME.

Australian Colonies Government Bill.
Tenants at Rack Rent Relief Bill.
Irish Fisheries Bill.
Bankrupt and Insolvent Members' Bill.
County Rates and Expenditure Bill.
Life Policies of Assurance Bill.
Small Tenements Rating Bill.
County Cess (Ireland) Bill.
Real Property Transfer Bill.
Benefice in Plurality Bill.
Process and Practice (Ireland) Bill.
Court of Chancery.
Registration of Deeds.
Judgments.
Marriages Bill.
Pirates (Head-money), Repeal Bill.
Life Policies of Assurance (No. 2) Bill.
Larceny Summary Jurisdiction Bill.
Registrar's Office Bankruptcy Bill.
Estate Leasing (Ireland) Bill.
Party Processions.
Charitable Trusts Bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Pirates (Head-money) Repeal Bill.
Registrar's Office, Bankruptcy Bill.
County Cess (Ireland) Bill.

BILL READ A THIRD TIME.

County Cess (Ireland) Bill.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

[Since our last.]

Thursday, February 14. Mr. Alderman Sidney—Bill for abolishing the payment of Fines and Stamp Duties on the Admission of Freemen of the Corporation of London.
.... Mr. Pusey—Bill for the improvement of the relation between Landlord and Tenant in England and Wales.
Friday, February 15. The Chancellor of the Exchequer—Bill to make better provision for the management of the Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues of the Crown; and for the direction of Public Works and Buildings.
.... The Chancellor of the Exchequer—Bill for Amending the Law relating to Savings Banks.
.... The Chancellor of the Exchequer—Select Committee on Savings Banks.
Monday February 18. Mr. William Somerville—Bill to provide compensation to tenants for improvements effected by them in certain cases, and to amend the Law of Landlord and Tenant in Ireland.
Tuesday, February 19. Mr. Disraeli—Committee of the whole House, to take into consideration such revision of the Laws providing for the Relief of the Poor of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, as may mitigate the distress of the Agricultural Classes.
.... Mr. Stanley—Standing Committee or unpaid Commission, to consider and report on practical plans (not connected with political changes) for the social improvement of the working and poorer classes.
.... Mr. Heywood—Address to her Majesty, that she will be graciously pleased to appoint a Commission to inquire into the Universities and Colleges of Oxford, Cambridge, and Dublin, with a view to assist those ancient institutions in their adaptation to the requirements of modern times.
.... Mr. Wood—Bill to enable persons who refuse, on religious grounds, to be sworn, to substitute an Affirmation for an Oath.
Thursday, February 21. Mr. Hume—Bill to amend the National Representation, by extending the Elective Franchise, so that every man of full age, and not subject to any mental or legal disability, who shall have been the resident occupier of a house, or part of a house as a lodger, for twelve months, and shall have been duly rated to the Poor of that parish for that time, shall be registered as an Elector, and be entitled to Vote for a Representative in Parliament.
Also, by enacting that Votes shall be taken by Ballot; that the duration of Parliament shall not exceed three years; and that the proportion of Representatives be made more consistent with the amount of Population and Property.
.... Mr. Monckton Milnes—Bill for the correction and reformation of Juvenile Offenders, and the prevention of juvenile offences.
.... Mr. Wood—Bill to prevent the holding of vestry or other meetings in Churches, and for regulating the appointment of Vestry Clerks.

DEBATES.

IRISH LAW REFORM.

Four measures of law reform for Ireland were introduced in the House of Commons, on Wednesday, by Sir JOHN ROMILLY.

The Common Law Process (Ireland) Bill is intended to extend to Ireland, as nearly as circumstances will admit, the provisions of the Uniformity of Process Acts, which remodelled the system of English common law procedure, in the seventh year of the late king. It will arrange the technical forms of pleading in one book; it will consolidate the offices of all the courts, with a view to the issue of all writs by one office instead of several as at present; and it will provide that there shall be continuous Nisi Prius sittings, the Puisne judges sitting.

The Court of Chancery (Ireland) Bill has for its first object to get rid of the prolix system of pleading used in Chancery, and substitute a short statement of fact by way of petition—putting an end to the tediousness of filing pleas and demurrers; also, to enable the courts, when they think fit, to take evidence *vide voce*—dispensing with bills of reviver and supplement; to originate a power like that enjoyed in Scotland through the action of declarator, of taking the opinion of the courts on a particular disputed point alone. It is proposed also to limit the time of making appeals; and to substitute payment by a salary instead of payment by fees to certain officers.

The Registration of Deeds (Ireland) Bill is to amend the system of registration of assurances of land which already exists in Ireland. The act 6th of Anne, c. 2,

contemplated a calendar of baronies, townlands, &c.; but none had been kept; and from this and other causes the system has given few of the benefits of a registration system, either in clearness of title or economy of assurance. It is proposed to adopt the Ordnance survey of Ireland as a basis for the preparation of an index of lands, and also to have an index of titles; and then, by references from the names in the index of lands to the lands themselves on the maps, and by mutual references from the two indexes to each other, both the ownership of any particular lands, with the interests, charges, &c., to which it is subject, and also the landed property in Ireland of any particular person, may speedily be found out. An index of persons under disability to own land—as bankrupts, &c.—will also be kept. All purchases of and all dealings with the land must be registered; and priority of charge is no longer to depend on notice, as it does now, but upon the execution of the instrument. Thus the voluminous and complicated deeds, surpassing everything known in this country, will become unnecessary for the conveyance of landed property; which will become a plain marketable commodity in the hands of the owner.

The Judgments in Ireland Bill is intended to prevent any judgment creditor from having a lien on the land in future, but to enable him to come to the court and say what specific lands or portion of the estate of a debtor it is intended to make the judgment apply to, and thenceforward to make his judgment act as a mortgage on that specific land.

Mr. NAPIER and Mr. SADLER expressed some doubts on this last bill; but agreed that it was worthy of attentive consideration.

The bills were received by the House with general satisfaction. Of the first two, however, some members remarked that England could not be refused participation in reforms so important, but that they must be extended to this country. Mr. HENLEY expressed his intention to take the sense of the House on the subject. Leave to bring in the bills was given.

CEYLON.—COLONIAL OFFICE EVASION.

Mr. HAWES having moved the re-appointment of the Select Committee of last session, on the grievances complained of in Ceylon,

Mr. BAILLIE complained that he had been accused by Guiana officials with making statements merely to mislead the House. As to Ceylon, the Government had, in the opinion of Mr. Hume and himself, insulted the late Ceylon committee as never committee had been insulted before [hear, hear]. Government had promised every facility to that committee for the examination of witnesses; and then, when the committee, through its chairman, sent a list of witnesses whom it considered absolutely essential to send from Ceylon, Earl Grey announced that two witnesses had already been ordered to England, and that he should not recognise the right of the chairman of a committee to dictate to the Secretary of State. But, when these witnesses should be examined, the proceedings of Haynau in suppressing a bloody revolution in Hungary would seem mild and legal compared to the acts of our officers in Ceylon, where a harmless riot was all that had occurred.

Mr. HAWES said that the Governor of Guiana, seeing the unqualified charges brought against him by the hon. gentleman, had answered them in the earliest and best way he could. The Ceylon case was hollow and rotten, and the result of a mean conspiracy in the island. There should be a fair inquiry, and there has been no refusal of witnesses. The hon. member (Mr. Baillie) was trying to persuade the House that the inquiry must be abandoned, because the witnesses he had named were not here. There was abundant evidence to go on with for a long time, but the hon. member was trying to prejudice the House against the Government. He would add that neither had Lord Grey sent for, nor Lord Torrington sent, any witnesses, except those ordered by the committee. Mr. Hawes then accused Mr. Baillie of conduct unbecoming an English gentleman, in assailing the character of the very witness for whom he had sent. If the committee were re-appointed, it should not be the fault of the Government if the truth did not come out.

Mr. HUME declared it should not be his. He reiterated the charges of atrocity in regard to our proceedings in Ceylon. He had never seen such effrontery as that of the Hon. Under-Secretary, in characterizing this as a mean conspiracy. He had no dependence on the Colonial Secretary, and he never had, and he would not believe a word he said, nor would one word of Earl Grey's be believed in our colonies; but he had a better opinion of the Prime Minister than to think he would have lent himself to such conduct as that of the Colonial Office.

Mr. DISRAELI thought that what had happened between the Government and the Committee would appear quite decisive as to the intentions of both, if Mr. Hawes had not, in placing the circumstances before them, so transposed the important documents on which the merits of the question depend, that he conveyed to the House an impression exactly the contrary to what had occurred. The hon. gentleman said he had read the documents; but he happened to read first the documents that occurred last. The resolution referred to is referred to as the basis of the report; whereas, on the contrary, the report was drawn up, proposed, and carried, and the whole was concluded, before the resolution referred to as its basis was adopted. Mr. Disraeli was able also to recall clear evidence of the intentions of the Committee and the understanding of the Government. "When we drew up the report, we put in the names of the Queen's Advocate and Captain Watson, and left a space for other names. It was impossible to know, from the hurried manner in which the Committee met, what other names were necessary, and the general words 'such other witnesses' were inserted. It is an important fact, that when a member

of the Committee, Lord Hotham, proposed the name of Colonel Frazer should be introduced, we said, as we have agreed not to insert the names of the witnesses, upon an understanding with the Colonial Office, it is inexpedient to put in the name of Colonel Frazer; and therefore we negatived the proposition of Lord Hotham that the name of Colonel Frazer should be inserted. Then it was advised that the Chairman should communicate with her Majesty's Government as to the necessary witnesses to be ordered home to give evidence before the Committee to be appointed in the ensuing session." He thought the case complete; and deemed that the House could not desert its Committee. He was for assenting to Mr. Hawes's motion, with the addition of these words:—

That in assenting to the re-appointment of the Committee to inquire into the grievances complained of at Ceylon, in connexion with the administration and government of that colony, &c., this House deems it proper to express its disapprobation of the manner in which her Majesty's Government have evaded the understanding of last session for the production of witnesses on this investigation.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL felt it necessary to address the House on the censure of his conduct. He began by reiterating Mr. Hawes's argument, that the Committee had exceeded its powers in leaving the Chairman to name the witnesses. He spoke of the responsibility that would be incurred by increasing the excitement in Ceylon, and weakening the legal authority of the local Government; and he reminded the House that the peace and happiness of an important possession of the Crown were involved in the decision.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM complied with calls that had been more than once made on him during the debate, for his evidence: and he prefaced it with a compliment, founded on a knowledge of many years, to Lord John Russell's strict honour and steady adherence to constitutional principle. Sir James thought that the understanding was, that the names of witnesses should be considered and notified; and he thought that the vote of the committee, delegating to the Chairman to communicate the names, went beyond Lord John's understanding. He did not think that the House ought to come to a vote of censure without any notice given, but to see what the ends of justice require. The inquiry could not be stifled. As to the expense, it was not to be considered for an instant; and as to the delay, only two months have been lost. The committee might meet to-morrow, or on Friday, and name the witnesses to be called; the summonses might be sent out by the next mail; and before the close of the session, with ordinary diligence, the inquiry might be closed.

Mr. BRIGHT fully concurred in the opinion already expressed as to the imprudence of the course taken by the head of the Colonial Office. It was a very bad thing for his own cause, for the cause of Lord Torrington, and a very bad thing for the Government, that that noble lord should have shown any hesitation in a matter like this. He did not think that Mr. Disraeli showed much tact in the resolution which he had submitted to the House; though there was a very general opinion among members on both sides that the course taken by the noble lord at the head of the Colonial Office, if not taken with a view of evading inquiry, at least laid him open to strong suspicions of being actuated by a desire so to do. If Mr. Disraeli would withdraw his amendment, and add to the end of the original resolution, that the four witnesses—stating the names of them—whose names were handed in to the Colonial Office, be forthwith summoned to attend this committee, he should be extremely happy to vote with him. Such a course would sufficiently show the opinion of the House with respect to those witnesses not having been called by the noble lord the Colonial Secretary.

Mr. DISRAELI signified his readiness to receive Mr. Bright's excellent suggestion; and asked leave to withdraw his amendment. Mr. Bright's would still amount to a vote of censure. This obeisance of the Conservative leader to the "Jacobin Free-trader" was visited with sarcasm by Mr. VERNON SMITH. Mr. HENLEY pointed out, that by the delay of the "witnesses for the case," their evidence will be postponed till after the reply, and will thus be depreciated by the discredit which will be studiously thrown upon it by anticipation.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL refused his consent to the withdrawal of Mr. Disraeli's amendment. The House therefore divided; and the amendment was negatived, by 140 to 68.

Mr. HUME immediately moved a second amendment, adding to Mr. Hawes's motion the words proposed by Mr. Bright:—

And that Lieutenant-Colonel Braybrooke, Lieutenant Henderson, E. S. Waring, Esq., and John Selby, Esq., be forthwith summoned to attend the said committee.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL declared that the amendment would be a censure not on the Government, but on the committee. This amendment was negatived, by 109 to 100—Ministerial majority, 9. It being now six o'clock, the Speaker adjourned the House, without putting the original motion to the vote.

On the motion for the nomination of the Ceylon Committee, on Monday, Mr. HUME declared he did not expect justice could be done by the Committee, and Mr. STUART desired an assurance that the necessary witnesses should be summoned.

Lord J. RUSSELL said the original understanding had been that all the witnesses desired by the Committee should be summoned, and when the present Committee met they would have full power to call for witnesses, and every facility would be given by the Secretary of State for their attendance.

Mr. DISRAELI said he should not resume the inquiry with any sanguine hope that it would be satisfactory to the House and the public. Efforts

would be made to prevent a thorough and impartial investigation.

Mr. ROEBUCK considered this declaration to be a charge against the Government; and asked how the Committee could go into this inquiry beneficially whilst this charge was outstanding against them, of an intention to prevent the investigation? He defended Lord Torrington, who, he believed, if he had confined himself to acting, and had abstained from writing proclamations, would have escaped hostile criticism: his measures had really prevented the effusion of blood.

Mr. BAILLIE said the only charge made against the Government was that of refusing to send for witnesses, which had been proved.

Mr. HUME characterised Mr. Roebuck's speech as tyrannical, and inveighed against the conduct of Lord Torrington, whose own evidence, he insisted, was sufficient to convict him.

Mr. ROEBUCK called upon Mr. Hume, if he had confidence in his proofs, to impeach Lord Torrington. The Committee was then nominated.

MR. HORSMAN'S CHARGE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT.

At the commencement of business on Thursday, Mr. ROEBUCK, in the form of asking questions, reverted to Mr. Horsman's letter to his constituents, which charged the noble lord at the head of the Government with having substituted one set of amendments for another, when the bill founded upon the report of the Ecclesiastical Committee was before Parliament last session. Having read an extract from the letter in question, Mr. Roebuck said he wanted to ask the hon. gentleman whether that charge which he had so gravely, so sedately made, was one to which he now adhered, and what steps were about to be taken to satisfy the country and the House that the charge was true or untrue.

Lord J. RUSSELL thought it would have been civil if Mr. Roebuck had given him some notice of his intention to bring the subject forward,—a course the more necessary as he (the noble lord) had not read one word of the production which had been alluded to: Lord John then gave a history of the transaction; he did not remember exactly what were the words he used to Mr. Horsman, but he thought he could not have said more than that Mr. Horsman's suggestions had been considered; on further communication with the Archbishop of Canterbury, he (the noble lord) framed his amendments with the view to conciliate his grace, and introduced them in the same way in which amendments *pro forma* are always introduced, viz. the clauses with the alterations put in at once.

It is very likely that I ought to have explained sooner to the honourable gentleman, and more in detail, after the various communications I had with him, how far I had adopted the suggestions he had made, and how far the bill I had introduced was to be altered. I confess it would have been proper that I should have made that communication. But, as the bill was to be printed—as it was to be brought under the consideration of the House again—I own I think the honourable gentleman's saying [in his letter] that he would as soon have thought of my right honourable friend stealing his hat as putting in any amendment that was not exactly in accordance with his views, appears to me an expression, I won't say exhibiting bitter hostility on his part, but rather the result of an inflated vanity [loud cheers]. With respect, therefore, to that charge of fraud, I am not going to fly into a passion on that subject. I can only say that I entirely despise any such charge; and that I must rely not on any detailed proof that I can give to the House as to what took place day by day, and what I proposed day by day, but that, having been many years a member of this House"—[loud cheers, which drowned the conclusion of the sentence].

In conclusion, Lord John Russell said, that on the whole he was very well satisfied with the matter as it stood.

Sir G. GREY, without long occupying the time of the House, "indignantly and unequivocally repudiated the charge which the hon. gentleman had thought fit to cast upon him." But he particularly noted one fact—that for six weeks after the transaction in question, he and Mr. Horsman had sat in the House together, and on any night the hon. gentleman might have brought the matter forward. The bill was committed *pro forma* on the 14th of June, reprinted on the 20th of June; and the charge was not made until the following December or January.

Mr. HORSMAN, speaking with deliberate emphasis, adhered to the statement in his published letter. He recalled the course which Sir James Graham had taken when similar charges were brought against him by Mr. Ferrand. That gentleman spontaneously offered a committee, to give the accuser the opportunity of substantiating his charges; and, failing to substantiate them, Mr. Ferrand was censured by the House. Mr. Horsman now maintained and reiterated the charges that he had made in his letter, and he claimed the opportunity of proving them.

Lord J. RUSSELL remarked that Mr. Horsman had not stated to the House what the charge was. "I shall not oppose the appointment of such a committee when he has made his charges, and satisfied the House that there is a case for investigation."

On Monday, in the House of Commons, previous to the motion being put, of which Mr. Horsman had given notice, for a committee to examine the charges he had brought against Lord J. Russell and Sir G. Grey,

Lord ASHLEY suggested that a committee of that House was not a proper tribunal to investigate a case which turned entirely upon a few casual words. He believed that the charge had arisen altogether in a misconception, and proposed that the House should be contented with expressing its general sense of regret for the misunderstanding, and its full belief in the honourable intention of all the parties concerned.

Mr. HORSMAN explained, that in writing the letter in which this charge was first laid, he had no intention of imputing fraud to the Ministers, but only of having strained somewhat unfairly the form of the House against a too persevering antagonist. His motives throughout had been altogether public. He now gladly consented to withdraw his motion.

Lord J. RUSSELL had felt keenly the imputation of a design to deceive. As that was withdrawn he was willing to dispense with the committee. Claiming for Ministers a favourable interpretation of their conduct in the performance of their responsible duties, the noble lord accorded to Mr. Horsman full credit for the purity of the motive by which he had been actuated.

Sir G. GREY expressed his satisfaction with the turn affairs had taken, and the subject then dropped.

PROHIBITED MARRIAGES.

In moving the re-introduction of his Marriages Bill [to abrogate the prohibition of marriage between a widower and his wife's sister], Mr. STUART WORRELL briefly explained the principal alterations that he has made in it: one would render valid such marriages as have been recently contracted; the other removed from the bill the compulsion on the clergy to celebrate such marriages. Sir R. INGLIS obstinately resisted the bill, on the old grounds. Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT would not oppose a re-introduced bill at that stage—the less since it was no longer proposed to alter the ecclesiastical law. On a division, leave to bring in the bill was voted by 149 to 65.

AFFAIRS OF HUNGARY.

On the same day Lord DUDLEY STUART moved for various papers relating to the demands of Russia and Austria for the extradition of the Hungarian refugees from Turkey, to the Hungarian war, the occupation of the principalities of the Danube by Russian troops, &c. This motion Lord Dudley Stuart supported in a long speech, recapitulating the history of the Hungarian constitution and national development; the history also of the recent unsuccessful war of independence, and the atrocities committed in Hungary by Austrian officers. He denied that he was chargeable with Russophobia; though he would check the increase of the power of Russia, which might make her able to discontinue the deference that now she is obliged to pay towards the advice of England when it is effectively urged. He rejoiced at the check which had been given to the insolent claim for the extradition of the Hungarian refugees, but he did not think that our fleet in the Dardanelles had obtained all that might have been obtained.

Lord PALMERSTON replied with more than his usual suavity, and less than his usual spirit or sportiveness of manner. He said, that the active interference of the British Government had necessarily been restrained within limits perhaps more narrow than they might have wished. Turkey has fulfilled the convention with Russia, mutually to reduce their forces in the Danubian provinces to the amount of 10,000 each; and it is his conviction that Russia is about to carry that convention into execution. He explained how the sultan was bound by treaty to expel [Russian] Polish refugees from his dominions; and how he had not "imprisoned" the Hungarian refugees, but removed them from the frontier, and placed them under surveillance. It was the wish of her Majesty's Government to give all the information to these transactions which it may be consistent with the public interests, and consistent with the courtesies due between governments and countries, to afford. There are, however, substantial reasons why it is not in his power to accede to the motion in its original form. He hoped that his noble friend would accept his offer, and allow him to submit to the House such portions of the papers as could be laid upon the table without being injurious to the public interests.

In the debate which succeeded, Lord Dudley Stuart was supported by Mr. ANSTET, Mr. COCKBURN, Sir DE LAZY EVANS, Mr. MONCKTON MILNES, and Mr. GRATTAN; opposed by Lord CLAUDE HAMILTON and Mr. DISRAELI. The debate, however, principally turned on some personal points, raised by Lord CLAUDE HAMILTON, who accused Lord Dudley Stuart of ignorance, exulted in the empty benches, and taunted Lord Dudley with the frigid manner in which the House had listened to his reading page after page from a bulky manuscript. He also, with much praise of the Austrian Government, ridiculed the idea that attempts had been made to poison Kossuth.

Mr. COCKBURN pronounced this defence of Austria disgraceful. He then read the following list of the victims of the Austrian and Russian Governments,—one of the bloodiest bead-rolls he had ever seen:—

Amongst the Ministers of State and persons connected with the Government who had suffered, were:—Count Louis Batthyany, Prime Minister, tried by court-martial, and shot at Pesth,—his estates confiscated; Baron Perenyi (upwards of seventy years of age), President of the House of Lords, and Judge of the Supreme Court, hanged at Pesth,—estates confiscated; Baron Jeszenak, Second-Lieutenant of the county of Neutra, hanged,—estates confiscated; M. Csanyi, Minister under Kossuth, hanged,—estates confiscated; M. Petoer, high sheriff of the county of Presburg, shot at Presburg; M. Szacsavay, Secretary of the Diet, hanged at Pesth; M. Csernus, Councillor of the Treasury, hanged at Pesth; M. Novak, Secretary in the Home-office, shot at Pesth; Count Leopold Nadassy, Privy Councillor, Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Comorn, imprisoned for four years, and sentenced to pay a fine of £14,000; Count Stephen Karolyi, Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Pesth, imprisoned for four years, and fined £14,000; Count Raday, Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Nograd, imprisoned for two years; Count George Karolyi, fined £10,000 for having shown great joy at the arrival of the

Hussars; M. Maresibanyi, Lord-Lieutenant of Trencsen, the first of the commoners of Hungary, fined £2,000. Of the army, no fewer than thirteen generals, six colonels, and four majors, had been shot and hanged [hear]. Fifty colonels had been sentenced to eighteen years' imprisonment in heavy irons; thirty lieutenant-colonels and majors to 16 years in heavy irons; and all the Hungarian officers who had not served before in the Austrian army were compelled to enter into that army as private soldiers, and could be flogged by the simple order of their officer [hear]. Upon individuals connected with the ecclesiastical body, the following punishments were inflicted:—M. Razga, Lutheran clergyman at Presburg, hanged in June; M. Messaros, Catholic priest, shot at Raab, end of June; M. Goneszowsky, Catholic priest, shot at Pesth, in October; M. Rudnyanski, Catholic Bishop of Neusol, sentenced to five years' imprisonment; and M. Michael Toth, Calvinist clergyman at Debreczin, sentenced to eighteen years' imprisonment in heavy irons. The Bishop of Neusol was sentenced to five years' imprisonment, and three other bishops were to be tried for high treason. He now came to the case of the women [hear]. Two women of distinction had been sentenced to be flogged by the public executioner, and the sentence had been carried into effect [hear].

Mr. DISRAELI could form no political opinion as to events in Hungary. He might as well refer to the events in Ceylon, or in our own Greek islands, and ask what could be thought of a country whose Government sanctioned such acts, as assail Austria upon the ground of these executions. He was, however, rejoiced at last to see so strong a conviction of the necessity of preserving the Ottoman empire. It had not always been so. But what had endangered the Turkish empire? The crusade of the ignorant Liberal party, who did not understand the interesting country it had maligned.

Mr. M. MILNES pronounced the course Mr. Disraeli had taken unworthy of his genius, and deplored the fact that the suicidal crimes of Austria could find a palliator in the English House of Commons.

Mr. GRATTAN, an Irishman, disclaimed the sentiments of Lord C. Hamilton, whose parasitical adulation of a band of assassins he utterly condemned. He read an account of the alleged flogging of a Hungarian countess by Austrian soldiers. "What would his lordship say," he exclaimed, "if the Marchioness of Abercorn (Lord C. Hamilton's relative) were to be flogged in a square of the Guards in Birdcage-walk? What if the Duchess of Devonshire were to be?"—a supposition at the suggestion of which the House roared with laughter, Mr. Grattan declaring that the laughter ought to be "spit upon by the children in the streets."

Lord DUDLEY STUART accepted Lord Palmerston's offer, and the motion was withdrawn.

COLONIAL POLICY.—AUSTRALIAN COLONIES BILL.

On Friday night, the House of Commons having gone into Committee, Lord JOHN RUSSELL moved resolutions preparatory to the re-introduction of the Australian Colonies Bill; and took the occasion for making a comprehensive statement of the Ministerial policy and intentions on colonial affairs.

Lord John began with a retrospective view of the manner in which most of our colonies, except the Australian, were acquired and founded. The main object seemed to have been, to send out settlers from this country, and also to maintain a strict commercial monopoly in relation to the colonies. At the same time, it was established on various authorities, by the whole policy of the Marquis of Halifax, King James's Minister, by the decision of Sir Philip Yorke on the Jamaica proclamation, by Lord Mansfield's decision on the case of the Island of Grenada, &c.—that Englishmen carry out with them their native rights and privileges, and that the simple proclamation of those rights and privileges protects them against being taxed except by the Imperial Parliament or by their own consent in a local assembly. From 1763 to the peace of 1814-15, the model of the English constitution was not imitated in respect of possessions acquired during that period. Lord John read a mass of statistics, to show the progress that has been made by the colonies in population and wealth.

By our recent legislation, especially by the repeal of the navigation-laws, we have utterly broken down the relation of monopoly; and a question has arisen, whether it is worth our while to retain our Colonial empire.

I say, in the first place, with regard to this proposal, that I consider it to be our bounden duty to maintain the colonies which have been placed under our own charge [loud cheers, principally from the Opposition side of the House]. I think we cannot get rid of the obligation and responsibility to govern those colonies for their benefit; and I trust we may be the instruments of improving and civilizing those portions of the world in which they are situated [renewed cheers]. In the next place, I say that there are many reasons why we should consider that our colonies form part of the empire. I think that, in peace as well as in war, it is a question of the utmost importance whether we should retain these supports of the imperial authority of this country, or whether we should be deprived of them.

We have also obligations to the native races; some of whom, like the natives of New Zealand, or those of Natal in South Africa, have shown a remarkable aptitude for civilization; and if they were abandoned by us, they would undoubtedly relapse into their savage habits, probably to be exterminated in a war of races. The value of our commerce, which penetrates to every part of the globe, all will admit; and many of the colonies give harbours and security to that trade, which are most useful in time of peace, but are absolutely necessary in time of war. But, abandoned by us, many of our colonies would be unable to maintain independence. Mauritius would recur to France, the Cape of Good Hope to Holland.

Another scheme which has been proposed is, that the Colonial Legislature should be free with respect to local laws, while the Imperial sanction should be required for other laws. But he believed that no such distinction could be drawn. The Canadian Indemnity Bill afforded a case in point: the Government maintained that it was a local matter, but Ministers were told that the assent of the Crown ought not to have been given to it.

Coming to the question of constitution and government, he referred to the declaration issued by the Council of the Colonial Reform Society, including twelve or fourteen members of that House, and three or four peers:—

I think the course taken by these gentlemen, of forming themselves into an association, and corresponding with the colonies, is a measure of very dubious policy, [loud and general cries of "Hear!"] The Council claimed self-government for the North American Colonies, the South African Colonies, the Australian Colonies, Van Diemen's Land, and New Zealand. Lord John considered these in the order named. With regard to Canada, he sketched the history of the responsible government established there: and maintained, that with respect to that colony, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, the practice of administration has been very closely approximated to the constitutional practice of this country. "With respect to Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, the principle which these gentlemen wish to have carried into execution has been carried into effect; and I should say that the consequence has been, and must be, that there have been far fewer questions brought before the Secretary of State than there used to be. In regard to many questions of official conduct or misconduct, with regard to many local affairs in which it could be nothing but a difficulty and embarrassment for the Colonial Secretary to be called upon to decide, he hears not a word; they are settled in the province; the Governor informing him about them if he thinks they are of importance. The government is carried on, therefore, with less resort to this country than used to be the case.

In regard to the Cape of Good Hope, Government has come to the decision that representative institutions should be introduced.

A Representative Assembly will be chosen by persons having a certain amount of property and qualified in the manner which has been specified. But a question arose as to the formation of what is called the Legislative Council; and, upon the whole, her Majesty's Government came to the opinion, that instead of imitating the constitution of Jamaica or that of Canada, it would be advisable to introduce into the Cape of Good Hope a Council which should be elective, but elected by persons having a considerably higher qualification than those who are the choosers of the Representative Assembly. These, it was considered, might be persons who had been named by the Crown as persons of weight and influence,—as magistrates and others, persons who had been selected by Municipal Councils as persons entitled to the highest offices which they could confer. It is proposed that the Representative Assembly should have a duration of five years, and the Legislative Council a duration of ten years, but half to be elected at the expiration of five years. Something like a constitution of this kind, though differing in some very remarkable particulars, is now in operation in Belgium, where, instead of having a hereditary Council, there is an elective Council, which I think has a duration of eight years, but half being elected at the expiration of every four years. Of course, this experiment is new, and it would be presumptuous to say that it will entirely succeed; but the order in Council having been passed for the purpose of its general introduction, that order and the instructions founded thereupon will be sent out to the Cape, and any amendments with regard to the details which have been settled here may be considered at the Cape before the measure obtains its final sanction.

In regard to Australia, the bill which he introduced was nearly the same as that of last year.

It goes not on the principle of having a Council and Assembly, in imitation of the Government of this country, which has been usually the form most palatable and popular in our colonies; but it is proposed that there should be but one Council,—a Council of which two-thirds shall be formed of representatives elected by the people and one-third named by the Governor. The reason for adopting this proposal is, that after a great deal of deliberation, that plan was adopted some years ago, and, I think, was finally enacted by Parliament in 1842; and since that time has been found so acceptable to the people of New South Wales, that upon the whole, as far as we could ascertain their sentiments, they appear to prefer that form of popular government to that which is more in analogy with the government of this country ["Hear, hear!" and a cry of "No!"] But when we propose that this shall be the form of Government for New South Wales, I should add, that we propose likewise to give the colony the power of altering their own constitution in that respect; and that if it should be their opinion that they had better resort to a government by Legislative Council and Assembly, there would be no veto, no restriction on the part of the Crown, against the adoption of that course. Last year we proposed that the customs-duties which now prevail in New South Wales should be enacted by Parliament for the whole Australian Colonies, and should be binding till they were altered by the proper authorities. We have thought, that although it is a most desirable object that the customs-duties should not vary in the different Australian colonies, it is not advisable to enact that by authority of Parliament, but it is better to leave them to settle for themselves whether they will not adopt a similar tariff for all the various parts of Australia.

The several Australian colonies would have their own Councils. An assembly of these Councils would have the power, on the application of two colonies, of framing a tariff for the whole. The body would also deal with the price of waste lands, only that it would be obliged to make the price uniform for all the Australian colonies.

In New Zealand, the establishment of representative institutions would take effect at the time already fixed by Parliament—1853.

In the midst of these explanations, Lord John mentioned a point of practice:—

Upon all the great principles of government, and which are to decide with respect to the welfare of the colony for a considerable time to come, as well as with regard to questions in which there is any peculiar difficulty, my noble friend the Secretary of State for the Colonies has considered it advisable to refer these questions to a Committee of Privy Council, on which Lord Campbell, Sir Edward Ryan, and my right honourable friend near me, the President of the Board of Control, have constantly sat, and given their mature attention to the subject. I believe that this is a very advisable plan, and that it enables the Secretary of State to discuss with others the various reasons for the propositions that may be made, and ultimately to come to a better decision than if he had to decide alone upon questions of this order.

Lord John explained the state of matters in other colonies. In Guiana, at his suggestion, Governor Barkly has carried a considerable extension of the franchise. Lord John avowed his opinion, that it is for the colony, and not for this country, to determine the amount of the Governor's salary, though some amount ought to be fixed. Reductions of expenditure will be effected in Jamaica. Trinidad is inhabited by seven races, and the community is as yet unfit for popular representation; but it is proposed that there should be an elective Municipal Council at the seat of Government. In Mauritius also, the Governor, Sir George Anderson, thinks that there should be an elective Municipality; and the Governor of Malta has introduced elective members into the Council.

As for the other colonies, I need not go into any question of free institutions for them. I don't think there is a single one which can be mentioned beyond those I have named which should at present have any representative institutions.

Lord John stated the views of Government respecting transportation. He regarded it as a subject concerning the Home Secretary far more than the Secretary for the Colonies, so far as administration is concerned. Lord Grey would be well satisfied if he were told that no more convicts would be transported; but when Lord John attempted, in 1840, to reduce the number of convicts transported, the House of Commons passed a resolution that so large a number should not be retained in this country; and the Judges declare that transportation is necessary to the general law. Lord John, however, had stopped transportation to New South Wales, which is now practically a free colony—there are only 6,000 convicts among 200,000 inhabitants. The Colonial Secretary must endeavour to carry out the system of transportation so as not to inflict injury, and the present Government has proposed that where the colonists are willing to accept of a small number of convicts, they should be sent to them; but it being always understood that convicts should not be forced on them against their will. The order for sending convicts to the Cape has been rescinded, and the transport-ship has been sent on to Van Diemen's Land. The future management of transportation is a subject not without considerable difficulty.

It must be expected that there will, more and more, arise among the settled colonies an aversion to freed or transported convicts; and this House will, I am persuaded, have to consider, before long, whether an alteration shall not be made with respect to the punishment of transportation as regards some classes of offences not of the gravest character.

Lord John also stated his views on the subject of emigration. Emigration is of two kinds—to supply labour for existing colonies and fill up the interstices of society, and to found colonies where society does not already exist. He enlarged on the advantages of the spontaneous emigration to North America; in one year £1,500,000 was raised in that way from private sources, and the abuses did not arise which would arise in any great plan carried on by Government. The rate of emigration to North America in the last three years has been 265,450 persons per annum; to the Australian Colonies in the last two years, more than 18,000 a year. There are 12,000 Europeans in New Zealand. The Canterbury settlement is about to be formed there; and Lord John felt no doubt that there will be in a very few years a large emigration to that colony, and that New Zealand will be one of the most flourishing of our dependencies.

In his peroration, Lord John declared that Government must persevere in the course of free trade, which has been effected with a less painful transition than might have been anticipated; and also in the course of promoting political freedom in the colonies, on the general rule, that while the Imperial Government is their representative as respects all foreign concerns, in their domestic concerns it will interfere no further than is clearly and decidedly necessary to prevent a conflict in the State itself. The question of military force he would reserve for a future occasion. He believed that in some settlements it might be reduced; but the colonies would look to us for defence in any foreign war or against any foreign aggressor.

"I think you are bound to give it them. I think you are bound to maintain the means to give them that assistance" [cheers]. He believed that they might proceed on these principles without danger for the present, and without renewing in the future the errors, the repeated blunders, the inconsistencies, that produced the contest with the United States. He did anticipate, with others, that some of our colonies might so grow in population and wealth that they might feel themselves strong enough to maintain their own independence in amity and alliance with England. "I do not think that that time is yet approaching. But let us make them, as far as possible, fit to govern themselves; let us give them, as far as we can, the capacity of ruling their own affairs; let them increase in wealth and population; and whatever may happen, we of this great empire will have the consolation of saying that we have contributed to the happiness of the world" [general cheering as Lord John resumed his seat].

An animated debate ensued.

Sir WILLIAM MOLESWORTH agreed with many points of Lord John's speech, but did not clearly understand his policy as a whole; and he could not yet put faith in the promises of the Colonial Office, especially those relating to Australia. He showed that Lord John still proposed to retain the arbitrary power at home—government by the misinformed with responsibility to the ignorant; and he showed how local independence could be confided to the colonies with the distinct reservation of Imperial interests. Other speakers expressed satisfaction with Lord John's progress in opinion, but took exceptions to his shortcomings. Mr. ROEBUCK could not understand why Lord John reversed in New South Wales the just conclusion to which he had arrived in South Africa with respect to an elective second Chamber. Mr. ANSTY claimed greater liberality for Van Diemen's Land; Mr. BAILLIE, for British Guiana; Mr. SCOTT, for New South Wales; Mr. AGLIONBY, for New Zealand. Mr. GLADSTONE and Mr. HUMS argued for a complete extension of the British constitution, with its two Chambers, to the Representative Colonies generally. Mr. LABOUCHERE quoted the *Sydney Herald* and *Victoria Colonist* in defence of the New South Wales model; but Mr. SCOTT remarked that he might as well quote the *English Morning Herald* or *Northern Star* as the true exponents of public opinion in England. Mr. ROEBUCK, Mr. GLADSTONE, and Mr. ADDERLEY, showed that the Colonial Reform Society had already produced fruits in the new impulse given to the Government. It had led to the new constitution for the Cape; the idea of which was conceived by the Committee of the Board of Trade in January. Mr. HAWES was again convicted of misquoting or garbling: he read an extract from a despatch as confirming his assertion that the Governor of Van Diemen's Land was in favour of a single Chamber; but Mr. GLADSTONE showed that he had only read from the preface to the Governor's declaration, which was in these words:—"I should most strenuously recommend the adoption of a Second or Upper Chamber."

The Committee passed the following resolutions, *nemine contradicente*; to be reported on Monday:—

1. That provision be made for the better Government of her Majesty's Australian Colonies.
2. That the Governors and Legislative Councils of her Majesty's Australian Colonies be authorised to impose and levy duties and customs on goods, wares, and merchandise, imported into such colonies.

THE BLOCKADE OF GREECE.

In the House of Lords on Monday night Lord STANLEY again drew the attention of the House to the state of our relation with Greece. He begged to ask Lord Lansdowne whether the mediation of France had been tendered to England, and had been accepted by the English Government; and whether that mediation had been accepted, extended merely to the indemnity claimed for certain British subjects, or extended further—to the still more important question as to the right of Greece or of the Ionian Republic to the possession of the islands adjoining them.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE replied that the good offices of France had been accepted by the British Government, though the offer had been at first declined by Mr. Wyse, who did not know whether his acceptance would be sanctioned at home. With regard to the latter part of Lord Stanley's question, he would reply that the nature of our pecuniary claims, and the amount of our pecuniary indemnity, was the only question on which the "good offices" of France had been accepted. The dispute as to the Islands of Sapienza and Elaphoneus had been excluded, as resting entirely on other grounds.

The Earl of ABERDEEN was glad that the mediation of France had been accepted by the Government, but could not help expressing his regret that such a mode of settling our disputes with Greece had not been tried before resorting to violence. He could not help remarking that the good offices of France were accepted as to claims asserted to be indisputable, while the possession of the islands, confessedly a disputed matter, had been reserved. He should be glad to hear that a forcible occupation of those islands was not contemplated, for he feared that the Marquis of Lansdowne was not perfectly acquainted with all that passed in the Foreign-office.

After some further discussion, in which Lord EDDISBURY, Lord BROUGHAM, and Viscount CANNING, took part, the matter dropped.

THE NEW ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSION.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE then moved the second reading of the New Ecclesiastical Commission Bill, and entered at considerable length into the details of the measure.

It was proposed to name three commissioners for the management of these church estates, to be called the Church Estates Commissioners. In the report of the committee of the House of Lords it was recommended that all the three commissioners should be paid commissioners; but, on reflection, it had been considered that it would be sufficient to have only two of the commissioners paid commissioners, and that a third commissioner might be found, fully competent to the task, whom it would not be necessary to remunerate for that particular service. The bill provided that these three persons should compose an independent commission of three commissioners, one of them to be named by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the other two by the Crown; the paid commissioner appointed by the Crown to be the chairman of the Estates Committee, and to be paid an allowance of £1,200 per annum; the paid commissioner named by the Archbishop of Canterbury to be paid an allowance of £1,000 per annum for his services. In order to secure adequate attention to the business of the commission, and to prevent those accidents which

had occurred under the late arrangement, it was provided that no act, matter, or thing, should be done at any meeting of the Church Estates Commissioners, unless two of the commissioners were present. Another provision, the necessity of which had been enforced by a recent unfortunate circumstance, was, that the offices of secretary and of treasurer should not be filled by one and the same person, but that the office of treasurer should be jointly filled by the chairman of the commission and the Church Estates Commissioner appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Another clause provided that fixed incomes might be secured to those archbishops and bishops, appointed after the 1st of January, 1848, who might prefer such fixed incomes to fluctuating annual incomes. By another clause it was provided, that henceforth what was called the "episcopal fund," arising from the diminution or alteration of episcopal revenues, and the "common fund," arising from the diminution or alteration of the revenues of deans and chapters, and other like sources, should form one fund, applicable to all the purposes conducive to the efficiency of the Established Church, now separately provided for by these funds. The only other clause to which he need refer was one by which it was provided that the income of future Deans of York should not exceed £2,500, that the future income of the present Deans of Salisbury and Wells should not exceed £1,500 per annum, and that the income of future deans of Chichester, Exeter, Hereford, Lichfield, Salisbury, and Wells, should not exceed £1,000 per annum.

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY, while expressing his concurrence as to the desirableness of making an alteration in the existing Commission, could not refrain from vindicating it from the imputations which had been cast upon it. With reference to the unhappy circumstance by which £7,000 for £8,000 had been abstracted from the funds of the Church, he could not help saying, that the late Secretary of the Commission had, up to within the last six months of his official life, performed the part of a faithful and useful servant. It would appear that some unhappy speculations, involving him in embarrassments, had induced him, in an evil hour, to appropriate the funds confided to him, in the expectation that he should be able to replace them. The Commission had been most unfairly charged with extravagance in its appropriation of sums to the construction of a palace for the Bishop of Ripon, and to the enlargement and improvement of the palaces of the Bishops of Worcester, Bristol, and Oxford. The sum appropriated to these purposes was not more, in reality, than £7,000 or £8,000, or one-fifth of the sum which had been stated out of doors.

The Earl of HARROWBY said that, in his conviction, provision should be made for extending the number of bishops. It was not consistent with common-sense to suppose, that the same number of bishops could suffice for the superintendence of a population increased four or five fold.

The Bishop of LONDON quite concurred in the propriety of the suggestion made by the noble earl. He could say, from his own experience, that the labour now thrown upon the see of London was such that one bishop was wholly inadequate—whatever his zeal, energy, and industry—to its due fulfilment; and, in their proportion, the same was the case with many other sees. He was not at all satisfied with the position which the Archbishop's commissioner was to hold in this Commission: he really appeared to be a mere cipher. That position was not only most unreasonably inferior in point of salary, but it was rendered distinctly subordinate, by the incapacity of its holder to sit as chairman.

Lord STANLEY concurred in the object of the present bill, and believed it to be a most excellent measure. At the same time, he must say he concurred, in the strongest possible manner, in the observations which had been made, both by his noble friend (Lord Harrowby) and the right rev. prelate (the Bishop of London), with respect to the particular provision of the bill to which they had referred, and which took away any chance of increasing, either now or hereafter, the number of the bishops of the Church. He knew well all the difficulties of effecting that object; but, their lordships might depend upon it, that it was a question which, if they did not face now, they would be obliged to face in a very short period; for it was utterly impossible, even if the present number of bishops was equal to the effective discharge of their duties now, that, with our growing population, with the increased attention which was paid to the religious instruction of the people, with the vast multiplication of the number of the clergy, with the increase of the number of churches which he was happy to see erecting throughout the country—it was utterly impossible, he said, even for the overlooking of the clergy alone, irrespective of other duties, that the same number of bishops should be adequate for the duty which would fall upon them 20 years hence [hear, hear].

After some discussion as to the proposed consolidation of the episcopal and common fund, which the Marquis of Lansdowne declared that the Government were determined to effect, the bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed that day fortnight.

HEAD-MONEY FOR THE CAPTURE OF PIRATES.

On the second reading of the Pirate Head-money Repeal Bill,

Sir G. CLERK resisted the deprivation of reward and encouragement to the men and officers who exposed themselves in the dangerous service of destroying piracy.

Sir F. BARING thought the receipt of blood-money derogatory to the honour of the British service. He did not propose to withdraw the rewards of any service of danger, but instead of setting a price on every pirate's head, it was proposed to leave with the Admiralty the discretion of granting a fitting remuneration in every case. This was also a

fairer mode of distribution, as the danger could not always be measured by the numbers of the pirate enemy. The sums lately paid for head-money would require a grant from the House of about £100,000.

Mr. HUMS thought the principle of giving extra rewards to members of paid services wholly erroneous. It looked like a bribe, and involved the suspicion that without such influence our soldiers and sailors would not do their duty; much of the large amount mentioned by Sir F. Baring had been fraudulently granted.

Sir F. BARING made some statements and promised some papers, asked for by Mr. Hume, relating to the defeat of the pirates near the coast of Borneo.

Mr. CORDEN protested at once against giving £100,000 for the destruction of the alleged pirates. Information from Lloyd's showed that no dread of piracy had ever existed in the Bornean seas; the massacre at Sarabas appeared to be a mere *battue*, in which Rajah Brooke had used the British marine to revenge his private piques. He should move for a committee to have the subject fully investigated.

Sir H. VERNY considered that piracy ought to be put down at all costs.

Colonel THOMPSON observed that what was wanted was evidence to show that the Dyaks were pirates. The public entertained a fear and jealousy lest a temptation should be held out to our navy to go about the world, kill parties under the name of pirates, and charge them in the bill.

The bill was read a second time.

THE MERCHANT SEAMEN'S SERVICE.

Mr. LABOUCHERE, in committee, brought forward three measures, embodied in three bills, of great importance to the mercantile marine of this country; namely, one for improving the condition of masters, mates, and seamen; another for the regulation of the Merchant Seamen's Fund; the third, for regulating the admeasurement of the tonnage of ships. The first of these bills was drawn on the same principles as that of last session, though it was materially altered and amended. The existing evils were, the notorious incapacity of some masters of our vessels, the want of discipline in the crews, and the manner in which contracts are entered into between owners and mariners. The remedies he proposed, as in the former bill, were to establish a mercantile marine department of the Board of Trade; a system of examination of masters and mates, and public shipping-offices, under Government functionaries, at the various sea-port towns, who should superintend the making of contracts between the sailor and his employer. He proposed in this bill that the shipping officers should have power to adjudicate in money questions only where both parties consented. The bill gave power to abolish the present system of registration, and to engrail it upon the new machinery. He proposed to modify the provision of last year with respect to advance-notes, which the present bill made recoverable by legal process. Regarding the discipline of seamen, the bill, in addition to the provisions of that of last year—giving first-class captains a power of imprisonment, and making acts of misconduct causing loss of the ship or of life a misdemeanor—provided that on application to a consul, or commander of a Queen's ship, in a foreign port, a naval court might be established to try grave charges of misconduct, with summary power in cases of emergency.

Mr. CARDWELL observed that, amongst other provisions in this bill, which had created apprehensions last year, masters of merchant ships, by the system of certificates, would be made the creatures of the Board of Trade.

The bill was then brought in.

Mr. LABOUCHERE then addressed himself to the important and difficult question of the Merchant Seamen's Fund, and the measures necessary to place it in a more satisfactory condition. He gave a sketch of the history of the fund, and of its present state, the disparity of the pensions, owing to the capricious manner in which it works, the insolvency of the fund as a whole, and the discontent generated by its present system of management. After mature consideration, he had come to the conclusion that the best course was to place the fund under one uniform central management, which he proposed to vest in the Trinity House, in conjunction with the two mercantile members of the new department of the Board of Trade. He proposed that no seaman should receive a less pension than 6d. a-day; that the payment to the fund, instead of 1s., should be 1s. 6d. a-month, and that the sum necessary to restore the fund to solvency—namely, £30,000 a-year, should be contributed by the State.

Mr. HUMS objected to consigning to the Trinity House the management of a fund which should be administered by national responsible officers.

After some discussion, the CHAIRMAN was authorized to ask leave to bring in this bill.

Mr. LABOUCHERE then brought under the notice of the committee his last bill, for regulating the admeasurement of tonnage, which he considered would be a great improvement of the existing system, and would tend to the advancement of the shipping interest. He explained the old systems, and stated that the new law of measurement which he proposed to substitute would ascertain accurately the real power of a vessel to carry cargo.

This resolution was likewise agreed to, and, with the other resolutions, was reported to the House.

THE IRISH PARLIAMENTARY FRANCHISE.

Sir WILLIAM SOMERVILLE then moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the laws which regulate the qualification and registration of Parliamentary voters in Ireland, which he had introduced last year, when

its principle was not objected to, and he explained the few alterations he had made, which were not material.

Mr. STAFFORD regretted that, instead of such a measure as this, of a political character, some means of alleviating the distress in the famine-stricken districts of the West of Ireland had not been devised by the Government.

Several Irish members spoke upon the question, but none objected to the introduction of the bill, for which leave was given, as well as to bring in a bill to shorten the duration of elections in Ireland.

PRISON DISCIPLINE.

Sir GEORGE GREY moved for a select committee to inquire into the rules and discipline established with regard to the treatment of prisoners in gaols in England and Wales.

Mr. PEARSON inquired whether the Government meant to stifle the motion he had proposed on this subject? Otherwise, he should take the sense of the House upon the question. £450,000 per annum was spent upon maintaining our prisoners, who might, by judicious management, support themselves. Our prison system did not deserve that name—a harlequin's jacket was just as uniform. He had studied the question long and deeply, visited nearly all the prisons in England and many on the continent, was prepared with a multitude of facts, and produced a boxful of documents, in readiness to support his statements. If this important subject was now to be taken out of his hands and suffocated by the hon. baronet, he warned him that a day of reckoning would yet arrive.

After a few words from Mr. MONSELL, suggesting the addition of the word "Ireland" to the motion,

Sir G. GREY explained that the inquiry of the committee would be full and complete. He was willing to include the hon. member (Mr. Pearson) among its members. The hands of the committee would be sufficiently full without including Ireland for the present, within the range of their investigation.

Lord NAAS moved the addition of the words "and Ireland."

Sir GEORGE GREY did not wish to overload the committee with too much labour, but if the House was of opinion that it was not too much to entrust to one committee, he should defer to that opinion.

Upon a division, the amendment was negatived by 23 against 18; and the House adjourned at half-past one o'clock.

MISCELLANEOUS.

RATING SMALL HOUSES.—Mr. POULETT SCROPE, on Thursday, moved for leave to bring in a bill to exempt dwelling-houses below a certain value from local taxation. In a sanitary, a moral, and an economical point of view, he urged the importance of the improvement of the dwellings of the poor. He proposed that in the country no house under £5, in small towns under £7 or £8, and in large towns under £10, should be rated. Sir G. GREY opposed the motion, and, after some conversation, Mr. Scrope withdrew his bill.

ENFRANCHISEMENT OF KENSINGTON, &c.—Mr. MACGREGOR, on Thursday evening, moved that Kensington, Chelsea, Fulham, and Hammersmith, containing 120,000 inhabitants, and 18,000 £10 houses, be erected into a borough, to fill up the Parliamentary place of the disfranchised borough of Sudbury. In a speech of some length the hon. member urged the justice of such a measure. Mr. HUME seconded the motion. Sir G. GREY said that the House had not yet sufficient information to enable it to come to an opinion upon the proposed resolution. The proportion of metropolitan members had been settled very carefully at the time of the Reform Act, and he was unwilling hastily to disturb that arrangement. Mr. HUME said that the House ought to be rendered complete. He demanded to know the intentions of Government as to reform in the representation. Colonel DUNNE should claim for Ireland an increased share in the representation whenever any change should be made. Mr. MACGREGOR withdrew his motion.

LAW AFFECTING ROMAN CATHOLICS.—Mr. CHISHOLM ANSTEE moved for leave to bring in a bill for the repeal of penal acts against the Roman Catholics. Sir G. GREY (having been appealed to by Sir R. Inglis and Mr. LAW) said he should support such portions of the measure as he had supported before. The House divided—For the motion, 72; against it, 77: majority, 5.

THE DOLLY'S BRAE AFFAIR.—In the Upper House, on Friday, Lord STANLEY gave notice, that on Monday, the 18th inst., he should call attention to the conduct of the Irish Government in relation to the unfortunate circumstances that occurred at Dolly's Brae on the 12th July. The Earl of RODEN said that he should be in his place, and he hoped that Lord Clarendon also would be present.

Lord BROUGHAM, on the same day, laid on the table—now for the third time—a Bill to Consolidate and Amend the Criminal Code.

PUBLIC PETITIONS.—REGULATIONS RESPECTING IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Every member presenting a petition to the House must affix his name at the beginning thereof (*Vide Commons' Journals*, 1833, March 20). Every petition must be written, and not printed or lithographed (*Vide Commons' Journals*, 1793, May 6; 1817, March 12). Every petition must contain a prayer (*Vide Commons' Journals*, 1843, July 10). Every petition must be signed by at least one person on the skin or sheet on which the petition is written (*Vide Commons' Journals*, 1817, March 12). Every petition must be written in the English language, or be accompanied by a translation

certified by the member who shall present it (*Vide Commons' Journals*, 1821, March 16; March 21). Every petition must be signed by the parties whose names are appended thereto by their names or marks, and by no one else except in case of incapacity by sickness (*Vide Commons' Journals*, 1676, Nov. 8; 1689, Nov. 14; 1774, June 2; 1826, Dec. 13; 1836, June 28). No letters, affidavits, or other documents, may be attached to any petition (*Vide Commons' Journals*, 1826, Feb. 20; Nov. 28). No reference may be made to any debate in Parliament (*Vide Commons' Journals*, 1822, March 28). No application may be made for any grant of public money except with the consent of the Crown (*Vide Standing Orders*).

COURT, OFFICIAL, AND PERSONAL NEWS.

On Friday night, her Majesty and Prince Albert, with their children and a large circle of guests, witnessed two theatrical performances by Mr. Charles Kean's selected company, in the Rubens Room. The plays were Mr. Phipps's version of *King René's Daughter* and Mr. Planche's comedy of *Charles the Twelfth*.

THE ROYAL CRUISE OF 1850.—It is rumoured that the Queen is to go to Gibraltar in the course of the ensuing summer.

EDWARD WOODFORD, Esq., LL.D., has been appointed one of her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools in Scotland, in the room of John Gordon, Esq., resigned.

We regret to hear that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is indisposed, and will be unable, for some days, to attend to public business in the House of Commons.—*Times*.

DOWNING-STREET GOSSIP.—We can positively contradict the statement that the Earl of Elgin has resigned, or been recalled from the Government of Canada.—A Queen's messenger has been despatched from the Foreign-office with orders to Mr. Wyse and Sir W. Parker to suspend hostile operations against Greece, in consequence of our Government having accepted the friendly mediation of France. We believe the offers already made by Greece are satisfactory to our Government; and there are substantial grounds for anticipating that the next despatches will announce a termination of the affair, by the Greek Government having given the redress demanded.—It is currently asserted among the political friends of Sir R. Peel, that the right hon. baronet does not intend to take an active part in the proceedings of the House of Commons this session.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT LAMBETH.—Early on Thursday morning, the most destructive fire that has occurred for some time in London, broke out in the vicinity of the York-road. It originated in the extensive premises of Mr. Myers, a builder, timber-merchant, and contractor; in the midst of a square of houses formed by the Westminster-road, the York-road, the Belvidere-road, and Guildford-street, which runs between the two last. From the situation of the buildings, the fire had gained great head before it was discovered, and then it spread rapidly. The result was the entire destruction of Mr. Myers's premises, of Messrs. Nickels and Co.'s India-rubber web manufactory in Guildford-street, the damaging more or less of twelve houses in the York-road, of five in the Belvidere road, and of other buildings. The body of fire was enormous, and the Brigade men could do nothing to save the manufacturing buildings. All London was illuminated; the Parliament Palace presented a beautiful spectacle. Mr. Myers was the contractor for the ornamental stonework for divers of Mr. Pugin's works; and a great deal of that kind of property was destroyed. Upwards of fifty workmen have lost all their tools. Seventy young women are thrown out of employment by the destruction of Messrs. Nickels and Co.'s factory; this building was formerly part of Grissell and Peto's establishment. It is said that all the buildings destroyed or damaged were Mr. Grissell's property. A lady had been confined in one of the houses in the York-road only the day before; but she was safely conveyed from the burning premises. Four horses were burnt alive in Mr. Myers's stables; the people first on the spot not knowing the locality, or they could have saved them.

PROTESTANT "SISTERS OF MERCY."—At the anniversary festival of the German Hospital at Dalston, on Thursday, Chevalier Bunsen and the Bishop of Manchester dwelt with great force on the introduction of Protestant Sisters of Mercy in the place of hired nurses. The right rev. prelate said, "He had often admired the Roman Catholic Sisters of Mercy. He was free to confess—widely though he differed from the followers of that persuasion—he honoured and respected a Roman Catholic, if he was sincere in his religion [enthusiastic cheers]. That women should devote themselves to the Christian duty of visiting and comforting the sick was originally and genuinely Christian. It was not enough to tend the diseased and afflicted, to assuage the sufferings of their bodies, and to smooth the dying pillow under their drooping heads. Those who watched beside the bed of suffering and death had a higher, a more important, a more sacred duty to perform. They ought to enlighten, to comfort, and to speak words of love and peace. This the Roman Catholics had understood; and ought we, who owned the same obligations, but to whom our religion held out a higher and a purer hope, turn away from the sufferings of the soul, and confine our care and attention to the body? Such a course of action would be unworthy of the principles of Protestantism."

LITERATURE.

The Method of the Divine Government, Physical and Moral. By the Rev. JAMES M'COSH, A.M. Edinburgh: Sutherland and Knox. London: Simpkin and Co.

THE method of the Divine government in the world is the great all-containing question which, variously stated, has been the root of all philosophies of nature and of man. The fact of a Divine providence, in necessary conjunction with physical forces, and inscrutably exercised in the world of minds, has been represented in the fables, and asserted in the philosophy, even of heathenism. Is there not an old story (we have read it some where), that Pronoia (Providence) was the mid-wife of Latona, and that no pains or struggles of labour would give birth to her offspring till the assistance of the former was given? Many readers will recall Plato's argument against those who deny a Divine providence, especially that burst of inspiration (quoted by Professor Woolsey, in an essay on the "Laws"), "Thou art not so small as to hide in the depths of the earth (and be lost sight of), nor mounting high shalt thou fly up to heaven (and be lost sight of there); but thou shalt receive thy due reward of the gods, either whilst thou stayest here, or in the realms of Hades, when thou hast passed thither, or when thou art conveyed to a more dreadful place still. . . . Thou thoughtest thyself to have discovered in their history (the prosperous wicked), that there is no Divine providence over all things, because thou knowest not how the contribution paid by them goes to the help of the general system." How near is the truth of the sage to the higher wisdom of the Psalmist,—and how true amidst falsehood is human nature to itself and God. Modern Natural Theology is this same question discussed from those phenomena which it is the object of physical and mental science to investigate and elucidate. Christian Theology and Christian Ethics are the discussion under those forms which are derived from the revelations and shaping power of "the truth as it is in Jesus." Thus wide and important is the field of inquiry to which this volume is devoted.

Its appearance at the present time is anything but inopportune. The prevailing modes of thinking and tendencies of our day are such, through the power of a lying induction on the one hand, and of a lying spiritualism on the other, as to demand the very check and correction which the intelligent and comprehensive examination of this sublime theme is fitted most surely to supply. An American writer too truly complains, that this is "a time when physical science, in league with a subtle Pantheism, is everywhere substituting its jargon of laws, and elements, and nebular stardust, and vital forces, and magnetic fluids, for the recognition of a personal God, and an ever-wakeful, ever-energizing, special Providence; and the remedy to which he points is that already indicated,—"We want vividness given to the great idea of God as a judge, a moral governor, a special superintendent of the world and all its movements, the head of a moral system, to which the machinery of natural laws serves but as the temporary scaffolding, to be continued, changed, replaced, or finally removed, when the great ends for which alone it was designed shall have been accomplished." To meet this need, which we believe to be deep and wide, we know of no modern treatise with pretensions which can bring it into just comparison with the present volume.

The author is guilty of no scant measurement of the work he undertakes. His syllabus shows a thorough acquaintance with the subject,—introducing many collateral topics which would have been passed over by one less original or less completely furnished. The division is into four books: the first, a general view of the Divine government as fitted to throw light on the character of God—the second, particular inquiry into the method of the Divine government in the physical world—the third, particular inquiry into the principles of the human mind through which God governs mankind—and the fourth, results—the reconciliation of God and man. The first book is introductory, and is purposely more popular in treatment and style than the remainder of the volume. It examines the sources of our idea of God; namely, the design exhibited in the separate material works of God—the relations which the physical world bears to man—the human soul, with its consciousness, its intelligence, and its benign feelings—and the moral qualities of man. Here, we think, the argument from design is not stated with the necessary precision as to its actual extent and value; and that from the human soul is not carried even to the limit to which "the mind can easily follow it"—very legitimately it might have been extended much further. Yet, the section, as a whole, is a satisfactory introduction to the subsequent investigations. The object of the treatise is then stated—to pass under review the external and internal government of God; the former, in the providence of God, or the physical

world in its relation to the character and constitution of man—the latter in the conscience of man, or his constitution and character in their relation to God. The author then proceeds to the consideration of some instructive views presented by the Divine government, in five classes of phenomena, two of which are seen especially in providence, viz. extensive suffering, and restraints and penalties; and two seen in the soul of man, viz. man at a distance from God, and a schism in the soul itself; while an intermediate class, presented by a combined view of these phenomena of providence and the soul, is, God at a distance from man. The book then closes with a study of the actual world, and the view which it gives of its Governor.—The reader is now prepared to enter on the particular inquiry into the government of the physical world, which occupies the second book. The observed existence of general laws commences the discussion, and the principal points treated of are—the different things denoted by the phrase, "Laws of matter"—the adjustments required in order to produce general laws—the wisdom displayed in their prevalence—the correspondence of external nature to the constitution of man—the connexion of God with his works—and the unity of the mundane system. Then follows a chapter on the providence of God—isolated and fortuitous events resulting from the adjustment of material substances furnish powerful and varied means for the accomplishment of the purposes of God—a general and particular providence, and the method of interpretation—and the practical influence of the various views which may be taken of this subject. The concluding portion of the book is occupied with remarks on the relation of the physical to the moral providence of God, and the explanation of mysteries which is furnished by the sinfulness of man's character.—The most interesting and important part of the treatise is then entered on—the principles of the human mind through which God governs mankind. The outline of the inquiry is—man's original and indestructible moral nature—the actual moral state of man—and other governing principles of the human mind. Under the first the author classifies the attributes of the soul:—1. The faculties of simple apprehension or conception (such as these, perception, consciousness, memory); 2. The powers of imagination. Above these simple faculties are, 3. The reason; and 4. The moral faculty. Intimately connected with these faculties are, 5. The emotions; and 6. The will, or optative power. Fixing attention on the last-mentioned, it is described as "an unresolvable and independent faculty," and writers on mental science are called on to admit "that there is a separate class of states of mind, which, for want of a better, we may call by the generic term *will*, or, as we should prefer, the *optative* states of mind." Again, "it is in ethical, more than in psychological inquiry, that the essential importance of this distinction becomes apparent. It may be doubted whether a person possessed of mere emotion could, in any circumstances, be regarded as responsible." This, of course, is urged in opposition to those philosophers who call *wish* and *desire* emotions, and *volition* the "prevailing desire." The conditions of responsibility are added; viz., self-action, intelligence, conscience. Into a criticism of these doctrines we do not enter; we but add that we have followed the author with strong and unexpected delight. A suggestive, if not wholly satisfactory, section follows on the causal connexion of Deity with the moral actions of his intelligent and responsible creatures; and the further topics are:—The distinctions to be attended to in ethical inquiry—the nature of conscience—the nature of virtue—the practical rule to be followed in determining good and evil—and the illustrations of the character of God to be obtained from the view of man's original moral constitution. Of conscience it is said:—"Understanding by conscience the exercise of the mind, when the voluntary acts of responsible agents are submitted to it, we may profitably view it under three aspects. It may be viewed, first, as a *law*, the law on which the mind proceeds (on which the author's observations are acute and discriminating); secondly, as a faculty pronouncing a judgment on certain acts presented to it; and thirdly, as a sentiment or sense, inasmuch as emotions invariably rise up upon certain actions being apprehended as virtuous or vicious." In vindication of this view Cousin is quoted:—"At the same time that we do such and such an act, it raises in our mind a *judgment which declares its character*, and it is on the ock of this judgment that our sensibility is moved. The sentiment is not this primitive and immediate judgment, but is its powerful echo. So far from being the foundation of the idea of the good it supposes it." And in closing this section the author adds:—"The view now offered of conscience, from the way in which we have been obliged to state it, may seem a very complex one. In reality, it is very simple. . . . The conscience is the mind acting according to a moral law, and its judgment giving rise to emotions. We do not see how anything could be simpler." We intended to furnish some idea of the answer

given to the question, "In what does virtue consist?" but find it necessary to forbear. The examination of the original and indestructible moral nature of man being completed, the "Actual Moral state" is next considered. Some peculiar laws of the working of conscience are noted; then, the influence of a depraved Will on the moral judgments—the theory of the production of the existing moral state of man—the judgment of the conscience on the character of man—and other related questions. Other governing principles of the mind are investigated, and this division of the treatise is closed with a summary of the argument from the combined view of the physical and moral. The fourth book is, "Results—the Reconciliation of Man and God." We can only indicate its contents: natural and revealed religion—defective views of the Divine character; viz., the mechanical, the sentimental, and the pantheistic—the character of God as revealed in Scripture. The close of the disquisition is on the restoration of man; a powerful and comprehensive outline of the highest truths, by which we are conducted to "the *loci communes* of divinity, which pious divines have trodden, while the footsteps of peasants have followed them." Throughout the volume are scattered "Illustrative Notes," which are often complete essays on the subjects to which they relate. They will be the most precious portions of the volume to many philosophic readers. The principal are:—The religious history of mankind—relation of cause and effect—laws of phenomena, &c., and review of Whewell—review of Comte's "Positive Philosophy,"—Combe's "Constitution of Man,"—and the "German Intuitionist Theology." In the last of these some of the writer's positions would be disputed by his opponents; and, we really fear to say it to so clear a thinker, but we believe it, do not touch the real questions at issue.

Although, in reading this volume, we have often been made sensible of minor differences between ourselves and the author, we have yet formed a very high estimate of its value; our delighted interest has never flagged, and we have obtained much profitable instruction. The thorough investigation, clearness of mind, and felicity of illustration, which it exhibits on every page, place it quite beyond all ordinary praise. Mr. M'Cosh has brought to his task the skill of an accomplished metaphysician and learned divine, and has made one of the most valuable contributions to modern theological literature.

A Guide to the Christian Ministry; or, Manual for Candidates for the Sacred Office. By Rev. THOMAS WALLACE. London: Published for the Congregational Union by Jackson and Walford.

THIS essay received a prize of £200 offered by the Congregational Union for the best Handbook for Candidates for the Christian Ministry. We know that the prize-essay system has promoted the publication of several valuable treatises, but, notwithstanding, we think it very objectionable and injurious. It often calls forth a vast amount of toilsome and self-sacrificing labour, of which the greatest portion remains unrewarded; or, on the other hand, it is so fettered with conditions of extent and development, that none but mechanical and second-hand minds could or would attempt to fulfil them. In the present case, the Congregational Union issued a "proposal," rather curious and rich in its way, to which only nine competitors made response. Of these nine essays, we have heard that six were at once rejected, even unread, for most unmistakeable unfitness or worthlessness. From the other three competing essays, Mr. Wallace's was selected by the adjudicators to receive the prize. The conditions and contents prescribed by the "Union" were such as must have led many to look for a failure—and a failure it is. The volume may be suited to young men of little intelligence, with slight education, and possessed of few advantages; but suited to the educated, well-developed, literary, young men who are now so much more frequently entering the Nonconformist ministry, it most certainly is not. It contains many sensible views and many appropriate counsels, given in an amiable and estimable spirit, but it is all common-place and conventional, with a tone and manner quite motherly and gossiping. The higher qualities of excellence in such a production are wholly wanting. For comprehensiveness we have dilution; for strength, dogmatism. Instead of compression of thought, there is a repetitious diffuseness which suggests that much of the volume has been written to fulfil the condition of "400 duodecimo pages, printed full, in briefer type!"

But we have a more important objection to urge—that the views advanced in some portions of the work are not only weak and unsatisfactory in their development, but are also erroneous and injurious. For instance, in the chapter on the "Call to the Ministry," the subject is treated, as it appears to us, with the silliest misapprehension. The "candidate" is told that, first of all, there should be "early and deep convictions" that the Lord has designed him for the work. Now, we seriously affirm that this is often the most mendacious conviction of the human mind, and, as a rule, is found existing

in an intensity exactly proportionate to the manifest unfitness and delusion of him who cherishes it. Other things requisite are said to be—"Fervent prayer for Divine direction; the favourable opinion of Christian ministers, and of enlightened and judicious Christian friends; the approval of the Church with which he is associated; and a series of providences decidedly leading him to the work." We do not at all depreciate the value of these tests when we protest that they do not supply the suggestions which might be expected on the matter; in the use of them all a young man may ruinously mistake about his "call" to the ministry. We had rather say to him, "Heart, opportunity, and power (including native strength and proved adaptation), to bless men in the office of the Christian teacher, constitute the divinest call in the universe." Again, the advice on preaching is shallow and unsound. Right enough as it is to say to a gospel preacher, "your sermons must be full of the gospel," it amounts to about as much as saying, "you are to do what you are to do." But when the conception of the gospel is narrowed to a string of dogmas (as on p. 247), beginning, as of old, with "the universal depravity of man," and ending with "the blessedness of heaven,"—we wonder what the writer has really found, in his own experience a gospel? Would to God that the pulpit of our age were more "evangelical,"—but let it not be a conventional man's gospel, in which dogmas are confounded with the realities of which they are only forms; and theories of original sin, divine decrees, and forensic processes, are substituted for an accomplished present salvation, spiritual freedom, moral strength, and participation "of the Divine nature."

There are other faults in this "Guide," which the young men who seek its help will be the first to detect and complain of. And though the author may set us down with those whom he has described (in p. 206), as "critical, carping, censorious," in fact "nothing if not critical,"—yet we are bound to say that we never read advice to students "on their studies," more tame, insipid, and jejune, than that which is here given. Speaking of mathematics, he records the example of a "charming young man," who could "repeat and apply, in an orderly manner, all the propositions contained in the two or three first books of that celebrated author"—Euclid! This is really a capital joke. We suppose Mr. Wallace does not know the extent to which mathematical studies are pursued in our colleges, or the amount required at the B.A. degree, taken by so many of our students, at the London University. On the next page, he breaks out with the question, "What can be finer than many of the Latin classics?"—much as, subsequently, he breaks out again about smoking, "Can anything be more unseemly—more unwise—more pernicious? We think not!" Throughout the whole book, another habit of the author prevails to the extent of a positive nuisance; he rings changes every few pages, on all the great Nonconformist names: so frequent are they, that we are fully persuaded the author must originally have attempted them as an exercise in permutation. In conclusion, we wish that we could say sincerely of this book that it has any higher merit than good intention, but we are painfully convinced that it will prove an unsafe "guide" to the intended minister; and we fear that in the view of many other young men, such as young men are in the present day, into whose hands it may fall, it will be injurious and degrading to the ministry itself.

Lays of the Revolutions, and other Poems. By the Rev. J. JEFFREY. Edinburgh: Menzies. London: Orr.

POLITICAL Poetry is as much a necessity as religious poetry; and the objection to the one that it is poetry polluted and perverted, is about as true and forcible as Dr. Johnson's objection to the other, that the topics are too few and universally known.

Every period of struggle for truth, for reformation, for freedom, has thrown out men with the divine gift of poesy, who, having clearly beheld the floating thought, and interpreted the aspirations of their age, have re-presented those thoughts and aspirations in the concrete forms which have such power amongst the masses—moving hearts, swaying convictions, awakening echoes. The first French revolution made, say some, or, to speak more truly, called forth the greatest poets of the time. And, amongst living men, there is the incomparable Beranger, full of humour, tenderness, and strength. There is the German Freiligrath. Just passed away from us is the great "poet of the poor," the strong-minded and impassioned Ebenezer Elliott. Charles Mackay is with us—almost a prophet in his appeal to Paris, on the eve of the recent revolution; a helper-on of the "good time," calling the "men of thought and men of action" to "clear the way." And though but indirectly political, you cannot choose us two finer things in all contemporary poetry than Tennyson's "Of old sat Freedom on the heights," and Browning's "Lost Leader."

The volume before us would not, we think, desire to

claim a high poetical rank, or the honours thereof; but it displays right thinking, sound feeling, and a spirit free and energetic. Take, as a specimen, the following stanzas from the "War-cry of the Roman Insurrectionists:"—

"From the old Roman graves,
Ghost on ghost, beckoning waves—
'Follow us far.'
Follow! we follow them,
Sprung of their hero-stem,
Grasping Fame's diadem,
Like a bright star!

More than Fame, Duty calls,
Trumpet-tongued from the walls
Girding great Rome;
Battle for Truth and Faith,
Battle lest hostile scathe
Crush us, or fetters swathe
Free hearth and home!

* * * * *

Hark! how God's thunders roll,
Booming from pole to pole
Of the wide world!
'Old lies are crushed for aye,
New truths assume their sway,
Bright shines the light of Day
O'er Night unfurled!'"

To the "Lays" are added "The Legend of Judith," and translations from the "Ronge Songs" of Germany.

Daily Bible Illustrations; being Original Readings for a Year. Vol. I., "Antediluvians and Patriarchs." By JOHN KITTO, D.D. Edinburgh: Oliphant and Sons.

WE scarcely remember to have met with a work which, so far as it goes, better carries out its professed object—to illustrate, or throw light upon, the Scripture narrative. Within a brief space, and without any parade of learning, Dr. Kitto has brought to bear the results of his profound scholarship, of his literary experience, and unaffected piety, to aid the reader of the sacred volume intelligently to understand its import. His readings are not only interesting in themselves, but render the text more interesting. One is surprised to find so much originality in so small a compass. Thus, in the chapter on the Fall, we have, compressed in a few pages, an outline of all the traditions on the subject which have prevailed throughout the world—a striking collateral confirmation of the truth of the Scripture narrative. Sacred history, biography, geography, antiquities, and theology—all furnish their quota to elucidate the text. Amidst the multiplicity of "Companions" to the Bible, we have never met with one better adapted for use, either in the private circle, or by the unlearned Christian inquirer. It contains that description of information which only a person who had made the Bible, and every branch of knowledge which throws light upon it, his constant study could supply. The work is to consist of four volumes, of which the second—comprising Moses and the Judges—will be published in April next; the third—the Kings and the Prophets—in July; and the fourth—our Lord and the Apostles—in October. Had our space permitted, we should have been glad to have quoted one or two interesting passages, as specimens of the novelty and freshness of its contents. The readings for the Sabbath are devoted exclusively to solemn matters—involving, for the most part, the practical and devout consideration of some topic which the actual course of the Illustration may present.

MR. BURFORD'S PANORAMA OF THE POLAR REGIONS.—This panorama, which was opened to private view on Saturday, may be counted among the numerous successful efforts of this veteran in the scenic field. Neither time nor opportunity has been lost to keep pace with the interest with which the fate of the Arctic voyages is invested and kept alive by the departure, a month since, of the very vessels here represented, the "Enterprise" and the "Investigator," and the probable departure of another expedition two months hence. There are two views of summer and winter, and the cheerfulness of the one is forcibly contrasted with the solemn gloom of the other. In both the effect is admirable, though so dissimilar as to seem to belong to different regions.

THE ELECTION FOR WINDSOR was uncontested. Mr. John Hatchell, of Dublin, Solicitor-General for Ireland, was returned by acclamation on Wednesday last, under the sole condition of endeavouring to get reformed a local injustice—the importation of strangers to the town to perform Castle repairs and improvements.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL.—We beg to call attention to an advertisement which appears in our paper of this day in reference to the above charity. The large degree of public confidence it enjoys proves its admirable quality, and the amount of benefit it is conferring upon the orphans of Nonconformists, renders it a fitting depository of some of their spare cash. Twenty children have already been elected, and we understand forty more, making sixty, will be added to the number in the institution for the present year. These large additions demand large additional assistance from the public.

THE REDUCTION IN THE ARMY.—It is understood that the ministerial plan of reduction, to the extent of between three and four thousand men, is now under consideration by the Commander-in-Chief, and its exact extent, as well as the mode of effecting it, will be known in a few days.

LITERARY MISCELLANY.

AMUSEMENTS OF THE ESQUIMAUX.—Should the summer and fall hunt prove successful, the Esquimaux is one of the happiest animals in the creation. He passes his dreary winter without one careful or anxious thought: he eats his fill, and lies down to sleep, and then rises to eat again. In this manner they pass the greater part of their time: night and day are the same, eating and drinking their chief enjoyments. When, however, they do rouse their dormant faculties to exertion, they seem to engage with great good-will in the few amusements they have—the principal of which is playing ball—men and women joining in the game. Two parties are opposed, the one driving the ball with sticks towards the goal, the other driving it in the opposite direction; in short, a game of shinty. They have dancing, too. Ye gods! such dancing! Two rows of men and women, sometimes only of one sex, stand opposite to each other, exhibiting no other motion in their dancing than raising their shoulders with a peculiar jerk—bending their knees so as to give their whole bodies, from the knee upwards, the same motion—and grinning horribly at each other—while not a foot stirs.—*McLean's Hudson's Bay Territory.*

THE OUTSIDE AND THE INSIDE OF LIFE.—No doubt there is much in success at the bar to ennoble and gratify the mind, and to attract the eyes of those whose hopes outrun their judgment; but laymen and spectators perceive the spangles upon the robe of the advocate, profoundly unawares that all is not gold that glitters brightly. If the advocate has his triumphs he has also his troubles, and to the vast majority the troubles far exceed the triumphs. Crowds, says somebody whose name and book we forget, but who spoke truly—crowds admire the figures upon tapestry—the splendour of the colours, and the rich intertexture of its purple and gold; but who turns the array to contemplate the jagged ends of thread, rags of worsted and unsightly patchwork of the reversed side of the picture; and yet it is from this side the artificer sits and works (!)—this is the picture as he sees it—the gay outside is for the spectator. Thus it is that we look upon life—ermine, lace, gold, jewels. Rank, station, ambition, glitter in our eyes, and we envy the good fortune of the possessors, and think they must be happy, seeing but the show side of their lives; yet not a life among them that has not, or has not had, its rags and tags, and knotted ends—its wrong side, in which the artisan has been drudging all his days, until the splendour he has made becomes distasteful, and only serves to enrich the eyes of ignorant lookers-on.—*British Quarterly Review* (February, 1850.)

A NOBLE PATRIOT AND A VINDICTIVE KING.—Sir John Eliot was one of the first and firmest assertors of public liberty against the tyrannous proceedings of Charles Stuart and his minions; even in a camp which held such men as Pym and Granville, Hampden and Digges, Selden and Hollis—all men of great learning and eloquence—Eliot still held the foremost place. . . . Eliot, with Selden, Hollis, and many others, was thrown into the Tower, and ordered to be kept in close confinement, relieved only by his examinations before the Council; but neither solitude nor privation could bend the pride of his lofty soul. When questioned as to his doings in Parliament, he boldly replied, "Whatever was said or done by me in that place, and at that time, was performed by me as a public man, and as a member of that house; and I am, and always shall be, ready to give an account of my sayings and doings there, whenever I shall be called unto by that house, where, as I take it, it is only to be questioned." Hollis answered with equal intrepidity, as did the others. Such men were worthy to be the champions of English rights. . . . After a trial, which was a mockery, the patriots were sentenced to be confined until they acknowledged themselves in the wrong, and gave security for their good behaviour. Some of them, after various periods of imprisonment, gave way, paid their fines, found sureties to answer for them, and made submission. Hollis paid 1,000 marks, Valentine £500; Selden and Eliot refused to admit the justice of their sentences, and remained in prison. When the latter was told that he had been sentenced to pay a fine of £2,000, he remarked, "I have two cloaks, two suits, two pair of boots and galooshes, and a few books—that is all my present substance, and if they can pick out of that £2,000, much good may it do them." When it became evident that the captive would never make submission, the Court, thinking that it had got him secured for life, relaxed its cruelties so far as to allow him books and writing materials, which he employed in composing his vigorous treatise called "The Monarchy of Man," and in writing to Hampden and other friends, and also to his children. All this prison-born literature is profoundly interesting. The correspondence with his sons is described as truly noble and pathetic. He exhorted them to stand firmly by the principles for which he was gradually falling a sacrifice—a trust lay upon them as upon himself. He says no enemy had ever been able to "wound his mind;" and as long as his children remained true to their political faith, he could hold the last grief at a distance. For himself, his health was suffering severely from the wretchedness of his cell, the monotony of the scene, the want of air and generous diet: he was growing faint and feeble; but still he says he should not bate a jot of heart or hope. That the nation was not indifferent to its champion's fate is certain. His native county petitioned in his favour; and the whole country beheld his fortitude in so trying a time with enthusiastic admiration. Now, when he was dying beyond all hope, the King put forth his royal arts to

induce him to submit and accept a pardon. With this view it seems to have been hinted to him, that he had only to ask his life at his master's hands to receive it. He accordingly wrote a manly application to the Lord Chief Justice. That functionary replied, "Though brought low in body, Sir John is as high and lofty in mind as ever!" and that he must write to the King. Eliot thereupon wrote an equally manly letter to his Majesty; to which he returned for answer, "It is not humble enough!" It was then changed as to its phrase; but nothing was said in it which could be construed into a triumph by the court. No answer was vouchsafed. His fate was then sealed. Charles had promised himself the pleasure of humbling his republican virtue; and when he found all the arts employed to that end completely baffled, his resentment knew no bounds. Sir John lingered a few months more, and then died, as he had lived, with the expression of an unconquerable love of freedom on his lips. I am sorry to relate what followed. When the patriot was no more, it might have been expected that the hatred of his murderer would have been appeased; but it was not so; the Stuarts never knew what it was to forgive. When his children begged to be allowed to inter the ashes of their father in the same vault with his ancestors, the ruthless King replied, "Let him be buried where he died;" and so he was. But the unsated tyrant missed his object. He thought to heap indignities on the name of his great subject; instead of this he added a new and paramount interest to the place of his burial. Few men can stand by that simple grave without feeling their pulses quicken and a generous glow about the heart; even in death the tyrant-hater is a conqueror. The sight of his tomb still nerves the mind and inflames the patriot zeal of every man worthy of the liberties he gave his life to vindicate.—From a highly interesting and valuable volume, just published, entitled "The London Prisons; with an Account of some of the most distinguished persons confined in them:" by Hepworth Dixon.

ORIENTAL ORIGIN OF A HIGHLAND CUSTOM.—At a Jewish marriage I was standing beside the bridegroom when the bride entered; as she crossed the threshold, he stooped down and slipped off his shoe, and struck her with the heel on the nape of the neck. I, at once, saw the impression of the passage of Scripture, respecting the transfer of the shoe to another, in case the brother-in-law did not exercise his privilege. The slipper in the East, being taken off in-doors, is at hand to administer correction, and is here used in sign of the obedience of the wife and of the supremacy of the husband. The Highland custom is to strike for "good luck," as they say, the bride with an old slipper. Little do they suspect the meaning implied!—*Orquhart's Pillars of Hercules.*

PEOPLE'S COLLEGE.—We understand that a number of artisans and mechanics are about forming a People's College and Music-hall in this town, which has received the patronage of many influential parties connected with the town, whose names will shortly appear with the prospectus about to be issued as soon as the college is formed. The formation of such colleges is highly desirable for the promotion of adult education. Nottingham, Sheffield, Derby, Norwich, and London, already possess such institutions upon the self-supporting principle, and we see no reason why Manchester should not have its People's College also.—*Manchester Examiner.*

THE OLD OAK OF ROSS.—This gigantic tree, which has for centuries been an object of attraction to the town of Ross, was destroyed by fire last week. The "old oak of Ross" is supposed to have been 1,500 years old. The circumference at base was 15 yards, and 11 yards at three feet from the ground. Its destruction was caused by some boys lighting a fire in its trunk, and notwithstanding the efforts of the people, assisted by the town engine, it was all but totally destroyed, nothing being left but a heap of blackened ruins.

THE LATE GALE.—During the late gale of the 28th December, the sea rose on the Bell Rock Lighthouse to the top of the lantern, which is about 110 feet above the level of the rock, and 97 feet above high water. Several large stones were thrown about and injured the iron gangway which leads along the reef to the tower at low water; and after the gale had taken off, a portion of a ship's scupper was found lying in one of the crevices of the rock. On the 30th, a large schooner, whose masts and bulwarks had been carried away, was seen steering for the Frith of Forth.—*Caledonian Mercury.*

[Advertisement.]—**PUBLIC TESTIMONIALS.**—The following Medical Men, Gentlemen, and others, have given voluntary testimonials to cures effected in cases of Bronchitis, Asthma, Coughs, Colds, &c., &c., by **BRANDE'S BRONCHIAL SEDATIVE**:—M. Michea, the eminent French Physician; John Thompson, Esq., 63, English-street, Armagh; Major Sheppard, Victoria Cottage, Romford; Thomas Richard, Hill Top, West Bromwich; David Goodridge, Portfield, near Haverfordwest; Wm. Davies, Dolgelly; William Hill, 48, Northampton-street, Clerkenwell; Eliza Woodley, Gibbon's-street, Plymouth; Mary Rogers, Dark-street, Haverfordwest; J. Willcox, 16, Wilson-street, Stepney; Mrs. Sherwood, Brampton Brian, Ludlow; and a host of others. This Medicine is sold by nearly all Chemists, or can be obtained through all the Agents for Brande's Enamel.

[Advertisement.]—**THE TOOTH-ACHE.**—This pain seems designed to call our attention to the decay going on in the teeth, and warns us to see to their preservation. When teeth are partially decayed, to touch them with food often causes intense pain. Unmasticated substances are, therefore, passed into the stomach, and indigestion and its attendant pains soon ensue. By filling decayed teeth with Brande's Enamel, which hardens shortly after it has been placed in the cavity, the decay may be checked, the teeth rendered painless, and mastication be duly performed with comfort.

GLEANINGS.

The speech from the throne (says *Punch*) was telegraphed over 2,000 miles of wire within an hour of its delivery. Though the speech was above the average in point of matter, it must be confessed that never was a royal speech so thoroughly wire-drawn before.

A NEW READING FOR AN OLD PURPOSE.—The editor of the *Westfield Letter*, an American paper, makes a strong appeal to his non-paying-up customers, heading his letter to them with the motto:—

"Help us! Cash-us! or we sink."

Mr. Matsell, the New York chief of police, in a recent report to the municipal authorities, states that in eleven police districts there exist 2,955 children without visible means of support—homeless, houseless wanderers, who are either forced by their parents or poverty and want of protection to penal offences. Of this number he further states that two-thirds are girls from eleven to sixteen.

James Randle, parish-constable of Braintree, Essex, "a working man with a wife and four children, but always ready to every good work," has enclosed a shilling to Prince Albert in aid of the Exhibition of 1861. Honour to James Randle! were every Englishman imbued with the same spirit, how many a "good work" might be accomplished!—*Gateshead Observer*.

It seems that there is but one hangman in Scotland—old Murdoch: "He is 82," says the *Glasgow Examiner*, "and has a nerve like steel. That the minds of the authorities may be kept perfectly easy as to any accident taking place at the eleventh hour—for in that case, according to the old notion, the youngest baillie must do the work—Murdoch lodges himself in prison a week or ten days before the event, where he has bed and board at the public expense."

At Oxford was a fig-tree planted by Dr. Powekin, 1543. Dr. Kennicott, the celebrated Hebrew scholar was passionately fond of this fruit; and seeing a very fine fig on this tree, which he wished to preserve, wrote on a label, "Dr. Kennicott's fig," which he tied to the fruit. An Oxonian wag, who had observed the transaction, watched the fruit daily, and when ripe gathered it, and exchanged the label for one worded, "A fig for Dr. Kennicott."

A RAILWAY FROM CALAIS TO MOULTAN!—The *Times* brings before its readers a speculation which, for boldness and novelty, fairly beats any that our American brethren have devised. This is no less than the plan of a proposed railway from Calais to Mooltan, or, rather, from Vienna, for up to that point railway communication is already complete. The cost is "only £34,050,000." After a humorous description of the route which would be pursued, the *Times* concludes by saying, "We have abundant reasons for believing that the scheme which we have here detailed has actually been considered for years, has been digested with the aid of all accessible information, and has been devised with no other end than that of promoting a great national good."

The obituary of the *Times* of Wednesday announces the singular fact of eight persons having attained an average age of upwards of 82 years, their united ages giving a total of 658 years.

Mrs. Fanny Kemble has refused to give readings in Louisville, alleging that "she cannot read in a slave state, and will not receive for her labours money which is the price of human blood."—*New England Washingtonian*.

POSING THE COURT.—An Irishman, charged with an assault in America, was asked by the judge whether he was guilty or not? "How can I tell, my lord," was the reply, "till I have heard the evidence!"

ROYAL PANOPTICON OF SCIENCE AND ART.—A company is in process of formation under the auspices of a long list of patrons, with the Marquis of Northampton at the head, for the purpose of "establishing in the metropolis an institution for scientific exhibitions where recreation will be blended with intellectual and moral edification."

"America," observes the *Christian Observer* (Boston, U.S.), "has the mournful honour of adding a new department to the literature of civilization—the autobiography of escaped slaves."

Whenever you write, asking for information, by post, enclose a couple of penny stamps. If this be one too many, it is an error on the right side, and covers the cost of note paper and envelope. Of course between old friends this etiquette may often be dispensed with.

On the introduction of an English plough into India, a few years ago, the natives were so astonished and delighted at its effects, that as soon as the agent's back was turned they painted it red, set it up on end, and worshipped it.

EXTRAORDINARY CHANGE OF FORTUNE.—Within the past week an authentic legal announcement has been made to Thomas Strickland, carpet-weaver, living in Caroline-street, Kendal, that he is heir-at-law to the estates of Miss Burns, of Cringlemere, near Bouth, who died recently at Cheltenham. The value of the real estate is stated at £14,000. The fortunate successor to this property has hitherto been in poor circumstances.—*Westmoreland Gazette*.

IMPORTANCE OF LEASES.—The commissioners of the *Times*, extending their tour into Gloucestershire, notice a curious and instructive fact: Lord Ducie is a landlord "liberal" in every sense of the word—a Free-trader, a practical farmer, an advocate of high farming; Earl Fitzhardinge is a man of backward opinions, not a considerate landlord, not a practical farmer, but a zealous preserver of game: the style of farming on the estates of these two utterly dissimilar landlords is the same: annual tenure is the custom of those parts.—*Spectator*.

THE SOCIETY OF DEALERS IN NEWSPAPERS have presented an unanimous vote of thanks to the proprietors of the *Spectator* and *John Bull* newspapers, in consequence of their discontinuing a Sunday edition of their journals.

BIRTHS.

February 5, Mrs. EDWARD WHITE, of Hereford, of a daughter.

February 7, the wife of the Rev. T. SEAVILL, of Somers'-town, of a son.

February 8, at Blyth, Northumberland, Mrs. ROBERT GRAY, of a daughter.

February 9, HANNAH, wife of Stafford ALLEN, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

February 5, at the Tabernacle, Bristol, by the Rev. J. P. Dobson, Mr. GILBERT BLIGHT, of Gracechurch-street, London, to SELINA, the eldest daughter of the late Mr. J. FOSTER, of Bristol.

February 6, at the Baptist Chapel, Friar-lane, Leicester, the Rev. SAMUEL WIGGS, minister of the place, to SARAH, the third daughter of Mr. W. WATMAN, Dissenting minister, of Ely. The Rev. Dr. Burns, of Faddington, performed the marriage ceremony.

February 6, at the Independent Chapel, Fareham, Hants, by the Rev. J. Varty, Mr. GEORGE HENRY BLACKMAN, builder, to Miss ELIZABETH, second daughter of Mr. C. MOORE, all of Fareham.

February 7, at Bethel Chapel, Sunderland, by the Rev. R. W. M'ALL, Mr. WILLIAM FRANCIS to Miss MARY DEANE.

DEATHS.

February 2, at Lydgate, near Todmorden, aged 72, Mrs. SUNDLAND, relict of the late Mr. W. Sunderland, manufacturer, of Hebden-Briggs, Yorkshire.

February 4, at Hastings, BIRSTRAD GASKELL, Esq., barrister-at-law, of 26, Montague-place, Russell-square, youngest son of the late Mr. Justice Gaskell.

February 5, at Chrysell-road, North Brixton, after much suffering, aged 8 months, ELIZABETH, the infant daughter of Mr. H. M. BRADLEY.

February 5, at Sharnbrook, Beds, in the 78th year of his age, Mr. THOMAS COLLIER. He was for many years a deacon of Mr. Fuller's church at Kettering, and afterwards of the Baptist church at the above place. His fervent piety, real benevolence, and amiable disposition, endeared him to all who knew him; and his memory will be long cherished with gratitude and affection.

February 8, aged 7 years and 6 months, HANNAH JUBILEE, eldest daughter of Mr. J. CROFTS.

MONEY MARKET AND COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

The English Stock Market has been very fluctuating during the past week, and very susceptible of external influence. On Friday Consols were at a decline of nearly a half per cent. from our last quotations, but they regained their previous price on the same day. The Market has been very variable, and but little business has been done, as it is anticipated that the approaching settlement of account, which takes place on Thursday, will considerably influence prices. A much larger business than usual has been done in general securities, such as Mining, Bank, and other Shares, in consequence of the difficulty experienced in finding any other and better ready investment for surplus capital. Exchequer Bills have declined a little since our last. Bank Stock, as will be seen from the subjoined table, has fluctuated with the other securities.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday.	Sat.	Monday.	Tues.
3 per Ct. Cons.	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
Cons. for Act.	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
3 per Ct. Red.	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
New 3½ per Ct.	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
Annuitants	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
India Stock	267½	267½	267½	267½	267½	267½
Bank Stock	206½	206½	206½	206½	206½	206½
Exchq. Bills	58 pm.	58 pm.	58 pm.	58 pm.	58 pm.	58 pm.
India Bonds	90 pm.	87 pm.	89 pm.	86 pm.	89 pm.	88 pm.
Long Annuity	—	8½	8½	8½	8½	8½

In the Foreign Market business has been confined almost exclusively to the South American Securities, which have again risen. Peruvian Bonds have advanced 5 per cent. in consequence of the favourable circumstances connected with the redemption of the debt, by which about £178,000 will be bought up by the Government during the present year. Other securities remain as last quoted, excepting the Russian scrip, which is heavy at 2½ premium. The market, however, is firm, and a general advance is looked for.

An improvement has taken place in the discount market, at present little more than nominal, but money does not seem so plentiful as for some weeks past.

The Railway Market has not been so firm, and last weeks' rates have been supported with a difficulty. The traffic returns, however, are generally satisfactory, and no real decline has taken place.

The Produce Markets are again dull; a statement of prices is given in our market reports. Sugar of all descriptions may be quoted about 6d. per cwt. lower than the date of our last. Coffee has given way about 2s. per cwt. for native Ceylon, but the better sorts of plantation have been dearer; Mocha is cheaper. The accounts from Amsterdam and Hamburg are still in favour of the market. Green tea has been in demand for the ordinary and middle sorts, but of black there are sellers at a slight decline. Spices, rice, and rum, have been firm. Cotton has been steady, and rather dearer. The wool sales, for which 12,000 bales are already advertised, commence on Thursday next; and the indigo sales, amounting to 14,369 chests, on Tuesday. Tallow has been lower, and in oils less has been doing.

Accounts from the provinces are very favourable. The demand for spring goods is very active; prices are higher, and there is no complaint of want of employment amongst our working population.

In Mark-lane, yesterday, the market was firm, at an advance of 1s. on foreign wheat.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

The highest prices are given.

BRITISH.	Price.	FOREIGN.	Price.
Consols	95½	Brazil	88½
Do. Account	95½	Equador	4
3 per Cent. Reduced	96	Dutch 2½ per cent.	55½
2½ New	98½	French 5 per cent.	—
Long Annuitants	8 5-16	Granada	18½
Bank Stock	205½	Mexican 5pr. et. new	29½
India Stock	266½	Portuguese	35
Exchequer Bills	—	Russian	109½
June	55 pm.	Spanish 5 per cent.	18½
India Bonds	88 pm.	Ditto 3 per cent.	37½
		Ditto Passive	8½

THE GAZETTE.

Friday, Feb. 8.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 2nd day of Feb., 1850.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Notes issued	30,104,810
Government Debt	11,015,100
Other Securities	2,984,900
Gold Coin & Bullion	15,837,733
Silver Bullion	277,077
£30,104,810	£30,104,810

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Proprietors' Capital	14,553,000
Reserve	3,232,594
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings, Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts)	5,797,761
Other Deposits	10,591,701
Seven-day and other Bills	1,265,956
£35,311,012	£35,311,012

Dated the 7th day of Feb., 1850.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

BANKRUPTS.

* CAWSTON, HENRY CHARLES, 4, Upper Dorset-place, Clapham-road, grocer, February 21, March 1: solicitors, Messrs. Morris, Stone, and Townson, Moorgate-street-chambers, City.

COOPER, T., sen., Wolverhampton, locksmith, February 22, March 15: solicitor, Mr. W. Bowen, Stafford; and Messrs. Smith and James, Birmingham.

FORD, ARTHUR, Stokefleming, Devonshire, miller, February 19, March 12: solicitor, Mr. P. Hockin, Dartmouth; and Mr. J. Stogdon, Exeter.

WOLSEY, EDWARD, Wexham, Norfolk, corn merchant, Feb. 19, March 22: solicitors, Mr. H. B. Mason, Wexham; and Messrs. Cree and Son, Gray's-inn, London.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

SKENE, GEORGE, Aberdeen, manufacturer, February 15, March 9.

JOHNSTON, ANGUS, Inverness, rope manufacturer, February 14, March 7.

LEITCH, ARCHIBALD, Glasgow, coach and livery lace manufacturer, February 13, March 6.

NICHOL, JAMES, jun., Perth, February 14, March 14.

DIVIDENDS.

William Oakes, Oldham, Lancashire, clock-maker, first div. of 5s.; at 7, Charlotte-street, Manchester, on any Tuesday—George Fox, Charlton, Derbyshire, paper manufacturer, second and final div. of 3s. 3d., and 7s. 9d. on new proofs; at 45, George-street, Manchester, February 19, and any subsequent Tuesday—Benjamin Yeates, Monmouth, draper, first div. of 5s. 9d.; at 19, St. Augustine's-place, Bristol, on any Wednesday—Peter Chaloner, Clifrow, Radnorshire, innkeeper, first div. of 1s. 3d.; at 19, St. Augustine's-place, Bristol, on any Wednesday—David Lees, of Wednesbury, Staffordshire, coach ironwork manufacturer, first div. of 3s. 4d.; at 7, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, on any Thursday—Thomas Turner, Northampton, boot manufacturer, first div. of 4d.; at 12, Abchurch-lane, Feb. 9, and three subsequent Saturdays—Joseph Jackson, Talwar, Denbighshire, farmer, first div. of 3s. 11d.; at 12, Cook-street, Liverpool, on any Wednesday—John Geale, of New Burlington-mews, Regent-street, job master, second and final div. of 3d.; at 12, Abchurch-lane, on Saturday, February 9, and three subsequent Saturdays—Henry James Wittichell, Carnarvon, bookseller, first div. of 10d.; at 1, Liver-court, Liverpool, on any Monday—Lewis Jones, Liverpool, merchant, second div. of 3d.; at 1, Liver-court, Liverpool, on any Monday.

Tuesday, Feb. 12.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnizing marriages, pursuant to an act of the 6th and 7th, William IV., c. 83:—

The West London Synagogue of British Jews, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square, St. Marylebone.

The Roman Catholic Chapel, Hathersage, Derbyshire.

BANKRUPTS.

BAKER, JOHN, Cheltenham and Gloucester, boot manufacturer, February 20, March 30: solicitors, Messrs. Bromley and Aldridge, Gray's-inn; and Mr. Depree, Lawrence-lane, Cneapside.

CHATTAM, ROBERT, Goole, Yorkshire, innkeeper, March 1, April 4: solicitors, Messrs. Garwood, York, and Blackburn, Leeds.

CROFT, ROBERT PETER, Lansdowne-villas, Brompton, and Haymarket, tavern keeper, February 25, April 8: solicitor, Mr. Willis, Bucklersbury.

DREWRY, BENJAMIN, Hulme, Lancashire, joiner, February 22, March 15: solicitors, Messrs. Whitworth, Manchester.

HARRINGTON, JOHN, Manchester, commission agent, February 22, March 15: solicitors, Mr. Ashley, Newark; and Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester.

MUSGRAVE, JOHN HENDERSON, Eastcott-place, Ferdinand-street, Hampstead-road, and New Bond-street, embroiderer, February 26, March 26: solicitors, Messrs. Baylis and Drew, Red-cross-street.

PATCHING, JAMES, Henfield, Sussex, brewer, February 21, March 26: solicitors, Messrs. Freeman and Bothamley, Coleman-street; and Mr. Chalk, Brighton.

POWELL, WILLIAM, Macclesfield, Cheshire, silk manufacturer, February 25, April 8: solicitors, Messrs. Hudson and Co., Bucklersbury.

SAVORY, ROBERT, Hereford, plumber, February 23, March 25: solicitors, Messrs. Gough, Hereford, and Bloxham, Birmingham.

SMITH, WILLIAM EDMUND, Plymouth, shipwright, February 23, March 14: solicitors, Mr. Kelly, Plymouth; and Mr. Stogden, Exeter.

STEWART, EDWARD, Boughton, Norfolk, corn merchant, February 21, March 25: solicitors, Messrs. Pringle and Co., King's-road, Bedford-row; Messrs. Reed, Brothers, Downham-market; and Mr. Walpole, Northwold, Norfolk.

WOODBRIDGE, WILLIAM, Mincing-lane, City, colonial broker, February 26, March 26: solicitor, Mr. Leigh, Manchester.

WOOD, GEORGE, Portsea, Hampshire, saddler, February 21, March 22: solicitors, Mr. Low, Chancery-lane; and Messrs. Ford, Portsea.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BELL, PETER, Crosson, Forfarshire, farmer, February 18, March 18.

Brown, James, Glasgow, commission agent, February 14, March 18.
 Cameron, George, Glasgow, writer, February 19, March 12.
 Scott, Robert, Govan, Lanarkshire, and Glasgow, banker, February 21, March 31.
 Wilson, John, Cumnock, Ironmonger, February 16, March 18.

Robert Nightingale, Chorley and Barry, Lancashire, grocer and common brewer, first div. of 1s. 1d.; at Mr. Hobson's, Manchester, February 18, and any subsequent Tuesday—John Green and George Eley, Birmingham, and Thavies-inn, Holborn, jewellers, first div. of 1s. 1d.; at Mr. Vailly's, Birmingham, February 14, and any subsequent Thursday.

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, Feb. 11.

Owing to the short supply of English Wheat this morning, there was rather more inclination to buy on the part of our millers, and the stands were cleared at fully last Monday's prices. Foreign Wheat met with a little better inquiry, at previous rates. Flour sold more freely, but without alteration in prices. Finest English malted Barley maintained its value; but all other descriptions and foreign sold very slowly. Beans and Peas unchanged. Rye dull sale. The arrival of Oats was small. In consequence of the boisterous weather, but the trade continues to rule dull and without improvement in price. Linseed and Cakes quite as dear. Tares slow sale. Red Cloverseed is offering more plentifully from our growers; and although prices are nominally without change, there was but little doing to-day. White seed is offering lower.

SALTISH.		FOREIGN.	
Wheat—		Dantzic ..	42 to 48
Essex, Suffolk, and		Anhalt and Marks..	36 to 40
Kent, Red (new) ..	36 to 40	Ditto White ..	40 to 42
Ditto White ..	40 to 46	Pomeranian red ..	40 to 42
Lincoln, Norfolk, and		Rostock ..	44 to 46
Yorkshire, Red ..	32 to 36	Danish, Holstein,	
Northumberland ..	32 to 36	and Friesland ..	30 to 34
Scottish, White ..	32 to 36	Petersburgh, Arch-	
Ditto Red ..	32 to 36	angel and Riga ..	32 to 34
Devon, and Somerset,		Polish Odessa ..	32 to 34
Red ..	— to —	Marianopol and Ber-	
Ditto White ..	— to —	dianski ..	32 to 35
Rye ..	31 to 33	Taganrog ..	32 to 34
Barley ..	22 to 24	Brabant and French	34 to 36
Scottish ..	22 to 24	Ditto White ..	38 to 42
Angus ..	— to —	Salonica ..	30 to 33
Malt, Ordinary ..	— to —	Egyptian ..	23 to 26
Pale ..	59 to 54	Rye ..	20 to 22
Peas, Grey, New ..	23 to 24	Barley—	
Maple ..	26 to 27	Wismar & Rostock.	18 to 21
White ..	23 to 24	Danish ..	18 to 22
Boilers (new) ..	26 to 29	Saal ..	20 to 24
Beans, Large (new) ..	42 to 43	East Friesland ..	16 to 17
Ticks ..	24 to 25	Egyptian ..	15 to 16
Harrow ..	25 to 26	Danube ..	15 to 16
Pigeon ..	26 to 28	Peas, White ..	23 to 24
Oats—		New Boilers ..	25 to 26
Lincoln & York, feed	15 to 18	Beans, Horse ..	22 to 23
Do. Poland & Pot. 17	to 20	Pigeon ..	24 to 25
Berwick & Scotch, 17	to 21	Egyptian ..	22 to 24
Scottish feed ..	17 to 18	Oats—	
Irish feed and black 14	to 17	Groningen, Danish,	
Ditto Potato ..	17 to 19	Bremen, & Fries-	
Linseed, sowing ..	50 to 52	land, feed and blk. 11	to 15
Rapeseed, Essex, new ..	— to —	Do. thick and brew 16	to 20
£27 to £30 per last		Riga, Petersburg,	
Caraway Seed, Essex, new		Archangel, and	
26s. to 30s. per cwt.		Swedish ..	14 to 16
Rape Cake, £4 to £4 10s. per ton		Flour—	
Linseed, £9 10s. to £10 10s.		U. S., per 196 lbs. ..	22 to 24
per 1,000		Hamburg ..	20 to 22
Flour, per sk. of 280 lbs.		Dantzic and Stettin 20	to 23
Ship ..	26 to 28	French, per 280 lbs. 32	to 34
Town ..	26 to 28		

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR FEB. 2.		AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.	
Wheat ..	39s. 4d.	Wheat ..	40s. 2d.
Barley ..	25 4	Barley ..	25 11
Oats ..	15 10	Oats ..	15 8
Rye ..	23 10	Rye ..	23 6
Beans ..	25 6	Beans ..	26 5
Peas ..	27 0	Peas ..	28 2

DUTIES.

Wheat, Rye, Barley, Peas, Beans, Oats, and Maize, 1s. per qr.
 Flour, 4d. per cwt.
 Cloverseed, 5s. per cwt.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Feb. 11.

The supply of foreign stock on offer to-day was very limited, and of but middling quality. Fresh up to our market this morning the arrivals of home-bred beasts were but moderate. Their general condition was, however, somewhat superior to those exhibited for some weeks past. Owing to the unfavourable state of the weather for slaughtering, the Beef trade ruled exceedingly inactive, at barely last Monday's quotations: the top figure for the best Scots was 3s. 10d. per 8lbs., at which a clearance was not effected. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received 1,940 Scots and Short-horns; from the Northern Counties, 900 Short-horns; and from other parts of England, 750 Herefords, runts, Devons, &c. The Scotch supply was only 110 head. Comparatively speaking, the numbers of Sheep were small. As the arrivals of dead meat up to Newgate and Leadenhall have fallen off, the Mutton trade ruled steady, at Friday's improvement in value of 2d. per 8lbs. The prime old Down was sold at 4s. 3d. to 4s. 4d. per 8lbs. The supply of Calves was again limited; while the Veal trade proved tolerably firm, at last week's quotations. In Pigs very little business was transacted; but we have no change to notice in value.

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.			
Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday ..	794	8480	125
Monday ..	3,146	16,396	63

Price per stone of 8lbs. (slaking the offal).
 Beef .. 1s. 10d. to 1s. 10d. Veal .. 3s. 2d. to 4s. 0d.
 Mutton .. 3 0 to 4 0 Pork .. 3 4 to 4 0

HAWKES AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Feb. 11.			
Inferior Beef 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d.	Int. Mutton 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d.		
Middling do 3 3 to 3 10	Mid. ditto 3 10 to 3 3		
Prime large 3 0 to 3 3	Prime ditto 3 3 to 3 6		
Prime small 3 0 to 3 3	Veal .. 3 0 to 4 0		
Large Pork 3 0 to 3 4	Small Pork .. 3 6 to 4 0		

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday.

Without activity in our market last week, there was nothing of importance passing in Irish Butter, and prices scarcely varied. Foreign: No improvement in quality, demand, or value.— Bacon: Irish singed sides were less dealt in, and the turn cheaper. American nearly stationary in demand and price. Hams and Lard as last reported.

ENGLISH BUTTER MARKET, Feb. 11.—We have no alteration to notice, except that old Dorset Butter is now become almost a dead letter with us, the only demand being for new milk Butter, which as yet appears in only small quantities. Dorset, one new milk, 10s. to 10s. 6d. per cwt.; do., fine old, 8s. to 8s. 6d.; do., inferior, 6s. to 7s.; Fresh, 5s. to 5s. 6d. per doz. lbs.

BREAD.—The prices of wheat in the metropolis are from 5d. to 7d.; of household ditto, 4d. to 5d. per 4lbs. loaf.

SEEDS, LONDON, Monday.—The operations in the Seed market were of little interest. Clover was more pressing offered, and secondary qualities of red were rather cheaper. In other sorts of seeds no change occurred; but the demand for almost every article was slow.

POTATOES, SOUTHWARK WATERSIDE, Feb. 11.—The arrivals the past week coastwise have been limited, notwithstanding which trade is heavy, and in consequence of the very large supply by rail, it is with difficulty the following prices are sustained:—Yorkshire Regents, 90s. to 120s. per ton; Wisbech do., 70s. to 100s.; Scotch do., 70s. to 80s.; Do. Cups, 60s. to 70s.; French Whites, 70s. to 80s.; Belgian, 60s. to 70s.

WOOL, CITY, Monday, Feb. 11.—The imports of Wool into London last week were only 704 bales, including 536 bales from Sydney, 60 from the Cape of Good Hope, 100 from Buenos Ayres, and 8 from Italy. The public sales of Colonial Wool begin next Thursday, and the quantity at present declared is 13,000 to 13,000 bales. A fair business is doing, and opinion rules in favour of the article, in which there have been some purchases for shipment.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 9.—Scotch.—There has been a moderate business doing in Laid Highland Wool at our quotations; which is also more looked after. There is not quite so good a demand for Cheviots and crossed, but the stocks are light, and holders firm.

	s. d.	s. d.
Laid Highland Wool, per 24lbs.	8 0	to 8 6
White Highland do.	10 0	to 10 6
Laid Crossed do., unwashed	50 0	to 12 0
Laid Cheviot do., unwashed	12 0	to 14 0
Do. do., washed	15 0	to 19 0
White Cheviot do. do.	22 0	to 24 0

Import for the week .. 202 bags.

Previously this year .. 202 bags.
 Foreign.—There is still a good inquiry for most kinds at full price. The public sales commence in London on the 14th inst., when about 12,000 bales will be offered. There will also be sales here on the 1st of March, when about 2,000 bales will be offered of different sorts.

Imports for the week .. 263 bales.
 Previously this year .. 5,566 bales.

TALLOW, MONDAY, Feb. 11.—Since Monday last our market has ruled very inactive, and prices have further receded 3d. to 5d. per cwt. To-day, P.Y.C. on the spot is selling at 37s. 6d. to 37s. 9d. per cwt. We have offers, but no buyers, of new T.C., deliverable up to the end of the year, at 39s. per cwt. Town Tallow is 37s. per cwt. net cash. Rough Fat is 2s. 1d. per 8lbs. Advertisers from St. Petersburg, to the 26th ult., state that prices of Tallow, owing to the improved tone of the letters from London, had advanced to 115 and 116 roubles, with hand money.

PARTICULARS OF TALLOW.

	1846.	1847.	1848.	1849.	1850.
Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.
Stock this day ..	20,496	132,82	12,894	35,302	42,864
Price of Y.C. ..	49s. 6d.	49s. 6d.	53s. 6d.	41s. 0d.	37s. 6d.
Delivery last week	1,188	1,311	2,392	2,067	1,978
Do. from 1st June	73,495	66,327	79,081	74,264	69,353
Arrived last week	37	51	1,563	1,007	1,473
Do. from 1st June	75,637	68,986	83,374	102,233	86,746
Price of Town ..	45s. 0d.	52s. 0d.	54s. 6d.	42s. 0d.	39s. 6d.

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, Saturday, Feb. 9.—The supply of Vegetables is pretty well kept up, and Fruit for the most part is sufficient for the demand, except Hothouse Grapes, Peas and Apples, which are scarce. Pine-apples are also less plentiful. Filberts and Walnuts are abundant, and Chestnuts plentiful. Oranges and Lemons are abundant, and there are some good Seville Oranges in the market. Amongst Vegetables, Turnips and Carrots are good. Cauliflowers and Broccoli sufficient for the demand. Potatoes are unaltered since our last account: foreign ones fetch from 50s. to 70s. per ton. Lettuce and other saladings are dearer, and so are Mushrooms. Some French Beans, Asparagus, Seakale, and Rhubarb, may be obtained. Cut Flowers consist of Heaths, Pelargoniums, Bignonia, Vervain, Primulas, Camellias, Chionodoxas, Roses, Azaleas, Lilacs, Lilies of the Valley, Epacris, Acacias, and Roses.

HIDES, LEADENHALL.—Market hides, 56lb. to 64lb., 1½d. to 1½d. per lb.; ditto, 64lb. to 72lb., 1½d. to 1½d.; ditto, 72lb. to 80lb., 2d. to 2½d.; ditto, 80lb. to 88lb., 2½d. to 3d.; ditto, 88lb. to 96lb., 3d. to 3½d.; ditto, 96lb. to 104lb., 3½d. to 4d.; ditto, 104lb. to 112lb., 3½d. to 4d.; Calf-skins, each, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.; Horse hides, 5s. 0d. to 6s.

OILS.—Lined, per cwt., 31s. 9d. to 32s.; Rapeseed, English refined, 49s. 0d. to —; brown, 41s. 0d.; Galipoli, per tun, £50; Spanish, £50; sperm £83 to £—, bagged £83; South Sea, £31 0s. to £33; Seal, pale, £39 10s. to £— 0s.; do. coloured, £33; Cod, £30 to £31; Cocoa Nut, per ton, £38 to £40; Palm, £32.

COAL MARKET, Monday, Feb. 11.

Factors very firm; and without any alteration in prices since this day fortnight. Stewart's, 19s.; Hutton's, 19s.; Kellie, 18s. 6d.; Braddell's, 18s. 6d.; Eden, 18s.; Wylam, 18s. 6d.; Lambton's, 18s. 6d. Fresh arrivals, 124; left from last day, 299. Total, 423.

COLONIAL MARKETS—Tuesday Evening.

SUGAR.—The market has again opened for the week with a downward tendency, and although the Importers of Mauritius showed firmness by buying two-thirds of the 9,000 bags offered, yet a decline of 6d. was established on the part sold, also on 700 bags Bengal. 380 hds. only of West India sold to-day, the prices of which were about those of Friday last. Refined market dull; grocery markets, 49s. to 51s. 6d.

COFFEE.—The market has become unsteady; good ordinary native Ceylon sold after business hours yesterday at 56s.; to-day, 56s. has been accepted for a small parcel, at which they are now reported buyers, and the quotation is 56s. to 60s. About half of the plantation Ceylon offered in public sale was bought in; the remainder sold at 1s. decline.

COCOA.—A small part only of the Trinidad and Bahia was sold in public sale.

COTTON.—We are without transactions to report to-day.

INDIGO.—The quarterly sale, containing 14,300 chests, commenced to-day. The attendance was good, with a fair demand. Middling and good middling description were most in demand, while ordinary and low sorts were rather dull of sale. Also Madras and Kurpaha, 565 chests sold. Compared with last October sales, we quote good and fine Bengals, 4d. to 6d. advance; middling Bengals, 6d. to 7d. advance; ordinary and low Bengals, 4d. to 6d. advance; ordinary Oudeas, 3d. to 4d. advance; dry leave Madras, 3d. to 4d. advance; ordinary Kurpaha, 4d. advance.

RICE.—The demand has somewhat improved to-day.

RUM remains dull.

TALLOW continues quoted at 37s. 6d.

TEA.—The market has been steady.

In other articles no material alteration; but there has been a general heaviness hanging over the markets.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

PARALYSIS.

MR. HALSE, the MEDICAL GALVANIST, of 22, Brunswick-square, London, earnestly recommends in valids and gentlemen of the medical profession to peruse the following. It cannot but surprise them, and prove to them the all but miraculous powers of Galvanism, when applied in a scientific manner, and with an efficient apparatus.

The following case is, perhaps, as remarkable a one as could be selected, as showing the powers of Galvanism, after every medicine, and almost every medical practitioner in Devonshire, had been tried in vain; and as the truth of it is witnessed by a distinguished clergyman of the Established Church, there can, one would suppose, be no doubt in any one's mind as to its accuracy. When the patient was brought to Mr. H., his wife told him that she could not believe that Galvanism or anything else

could possibly restore him; for his complaint had been standing so long, and he was in such a weak state, that it would be presumptuous to expect any benefit, particularly as he had tried the most celebrated physicians in Devonshire, and still daily continued to get worse. She also stated that her friends blamed her very much for removing him from his home; but she could not help it! Her husband had heard of such extraordinary cures made by Mr. H. in his complaint, that galvanized he would be, in spite of everything. His medical man was quite angry with him for thinking of such a thing; and when his friends were carrying him from his house to the carriage, every one appeared to be convinced that they should never see him alive any more. But, notwithstanding all the difficulties he had to contend with, he was determined, and insisted upon being galvanized. The following letter which he sent to the Editor of the *Exeter Flying Post*, will prove the result:—

OUGHT NOT GALVANISM TO BE MORE GENERALLY RESORTED TO?

A Letter to the Editor of the *Flying Post*, by one who has derived immense benefit from the power of the Galvanic Apparatus.

"MR. EDITOR.—A few weeks since, I noticed a paragraph by you, stating that Galvanism ought to be more generally employed. I beg to state, that I am precisely of the same opinion, for I have witnessed its astonishing effects in a number of cases, and its power has been tried practically upon myself, with the happiest results. In that paragraph, I was most happy to find favourable mention of Mr. Halse's name. All that you have said of him, and even more, is his due; indeed, as for myself, I have cause to bless the day that I first placed myself under his care. Now, Sir, my case was a most deplorable one, for I had not the least use of either arm or leg—they hung about me like as if they did not belong to me, and the strength of my legs was insufficient to support the weight of my body. Of course I could not stand; and if you had offered me a thousand guineas to move either hand but one inch from the place where it might have been placed, I could not have done it: not the least command had I over my limbs. My complaint was caused by a blow in the back. Well, as before stated, I placed myself under Mr. Halse's galvanic treatment. I had been led to believe, that it was a dreadful operation to go through; but I was agreeably surprised that there was no unpleasantness at all about it, not even enough to make a child cry, so beautifully does Mr. Halse manage his battery. In three days, Sir, I could stand upon my legs, and, in one week, I could walk about the house: at the same time, I also partially recovered the use of my arms, and, in six weeks, I could walk several miles in a day, without the least assistance. Well might you ask, 'Ought not Galvanism to be much resorted to?' After what I have seen and experienced, I do consider it a shame that a portion of the medical profession should decline to recommend their patients to try the power of galvanism. Perhaps I need not state, that I had had the advice of the most celebrated physicians in this country; but all the medicines which were tried did me little or no good. I believe Mr. Halse was as much surprised as myself and friend when, at the expiration of a week, he saw that I could walk, for he did not lead me to believe that there would be such a rapid improvement. I will state that invalids are very much to blame if they do not give Galvanism a trial; for if it does no good it is impossible it can do any harm. But there is every probability of its doing good; for during the time I was under Mr. Halse's care, I noticed his happy effects in a variety of cases, particularly sciatia, rheumatism, asthma, and nervousness; indeed, all his patients were rapidly regaining their health. I only regret that I had not applied to him earlier; I should have been many scores of pounds in pocket had I done so."

"NEW LONDON INN, DODDROCK, KINGSBRIDGE.
 "Witness to the truth of the above.—C. G. Owen, Rector of Doddrocks, near Kingsbridge, Devon."

Mr. Halse recommends paralytic patients residing in the country to purchase one of his Ten Guinea Portable Apparatus; as, with his instructions, they will be enabled to apply the Galvanism themselves, without the least pain, and fully as effective as he could at his own residence.

Invalids are solicited to send to Mr. W. H. HALSE, of 22, Brunswick-square, London, for his Pamphlet on MEDICAL GALVANISM, which will be forwarded free on receipt of two postage stamps. They will be astonished at its contents. It will be found the particulars of cures in cases of asthma, rheumatism, sciatia, tic-douloureux, paralysis, spinal complaints, headache, deficiency of nervous energy, liver complaints, general debility, indigestion, stiff joints, all sorts of nervous disorders, &c. Mr. Halse's method of applying the galvanic fluid is quite free from all unpleasant sensations; in fact, it is rather pleasurable than otherwise, and many ladies are exceedingly fond of it. It quickly causes the patient to do without medicine. Terms, One Guinea per week. The above Pamphlet contains his Letters on Medical Galvanism.

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